

# The Standard Model Higgs

C. Anastasiou, CTEQ-MCnet summer school 2008,

<http://conference.ippp.dur.ac.uk/conferenceOtherViews.py?view=ippp&confId=156>

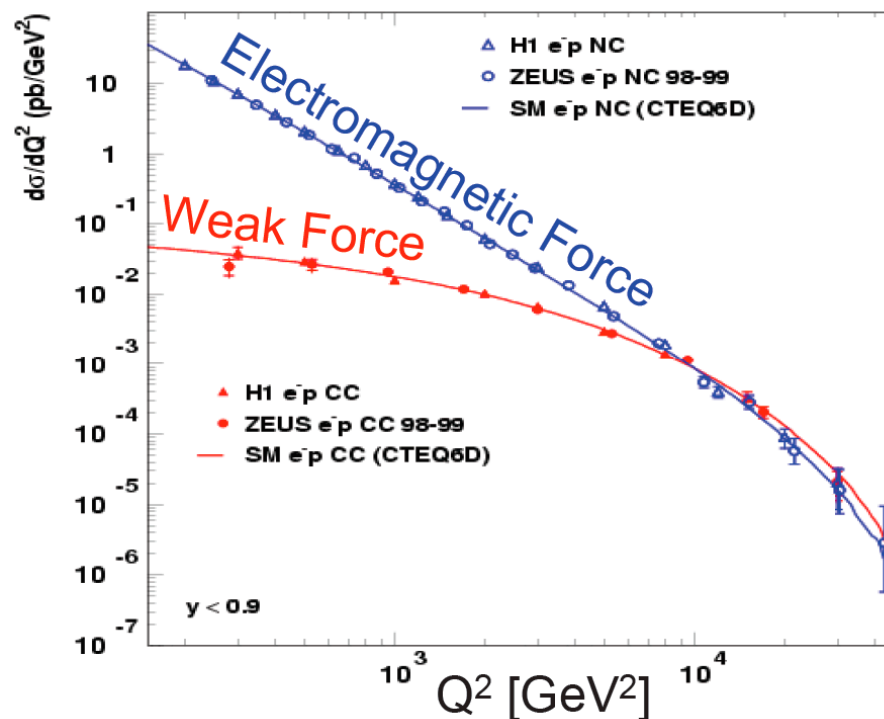
S. Dawson, Introduction to Electroweak Symmetry Breaking, <http://arxiv.org/abs/0812.2190>

# The Standard Model

Gauge Group:  
 $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$   
 QCD      Electroweak

Gauge Bosons:  
 $\rightarrow SU(3): G_\mu^i, i=1,\dots,8$   
 $\rightarrow SU(2): W_\mu^i, i=1,2,3$   
 $\rightarrow U(1): B_\mu$

EW unification beautifully demonstrated



Massless fermions and bosons



Need for a mechanism to provide masses:

# The SM Higgs mechanism

Since an explicit mass term in the Lagrangian would violate local gauge invariance, which is the guiding principles of SM, a complex Higgs  $SU(2)$  doublet:

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2 \\ \phi_3 + i\phi_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is included in the SM, with a  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  invariant scalar potential  $V = \mu^2 \Phi^\dagger \Phi + \lambda (\Phi^\dagger \Phi)^2$

# Higgs Lagrangian

Lagrange equation:  $\partial_\mu \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \Phi)} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Phi} = 0$

where:

$\Phi$  = wave or field amplitude ( $\equiv \Phi_{\text{RE}}$ )

$\partial_\mu = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_\mu}$  = 4-vector space-time derivative

For free scalar particles of mass  $\mu$ :

$$\mathcal{L} = T - V = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 \Phi^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_\mu^2 \Phi - \mu^2 \Phi = 0 \quad (\text{Klein-Gordon eq.})$$

Higgs  $\Rightarrow$  scalar particles that interact with each other:  
the most general, non-trivial, renormalizable potential is:

$$V = \frac{1}{2}\mu^2 \Phi^2 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda \Phi^4$$

( $\lambda$  = positive dimensionless constant  $\equiv$  coupling of the four-boson vertex)

Let us inspect the vacuum of this field:

# Higgs potential

Vacuum  $\Rightarrow$  minimum of  $V$ :  $\Phi(\mu^2 + \lambda\Phi^2) = 0$

If  $\mu^2 > 0$  (massive particle)  $\Rightarrow \Phi_{\min} = 0$   
(nothing special happens...)

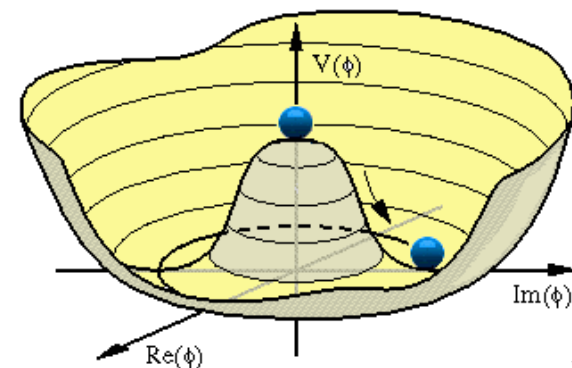
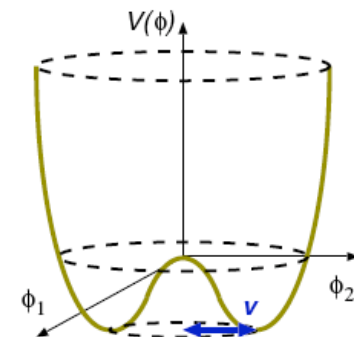
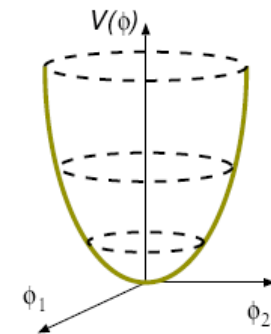
If  $\mu^2 < 0 \Rightarrow \Phi_{\min} = \pm v = \pm(-\mu^2/\lambda)^{1/2}$

These two minima in one dimension correspond to a continuum of minimum values in  $SU(2)$ .

The point  $\Phi = 0$  is now unstable.

Choosing the minimum (e.g. at  $+v$ ) gives the vacuum a preferred direction in isospin space  
 $\Rightarrow$  spontaneous symmetry breaking.


Perform perturbation around the minimum:




# The Higgs boson

Expansion of  $L = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \Phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2\Phi^2 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda\Phi^4$  around the minimum,  $\Phi = v + \sigma(x)$ , gives:

$$L = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \sigma)^2 - \lambda v^2 \sigma^2 - \lambda(v\sigma^3 + \frac{1}{4}\sigma^4)$$

  
mass term

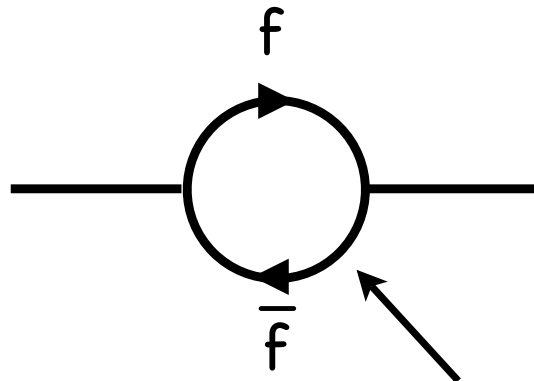
  
self interaction

Therefore, we obtain a massive scalar, self-interacting



the Higgs Boson

# Vacuum in quantum theory



virtual particles:  
same quantum numbers & properties  
as the real one, except for  $E^2 - p^2 \neq m^2$

Very busy place!  
virtual particle-antiparticle pairs  
produced out of nothing,  
according to  $\Delta E \cdot \Delta t < \hbar$

# the Higgs mechanism

The masses do not emerge alone from the SM.

According to the Standard Model,

the vacuum is filled with a condensate of Higgs particles: quarks, leptons, W and Z bosons continuously collide with these Higgs particles as they travel through the "vacuum". The Higgs condensate acts like molasses and slows down anything that interacts with it. The stronger the interactions between the particles and the Higgs condensate are, the heavier the particles become.

In other words:

the coupling to the Higgs boson is proportional to the mass.



To understand the Higgs mechanism, imagine that a room full of physicists quietly chattering is like space filled only with the Higgs field....





... a well known scientist walks in, creating a disturbance as he moves across the room, and attracting a cluster of admirers with each step ...





... this increases his resistance to movement, in other words, he acquires mass, just like a particle moving through the Higgs field ...





... if a rumour crosses the room ...





... it creates the same kind of clustering, but this time among the scientists themselves. In this analogy, these clusters are the Higgs particles.



# Higgs sector parameters

The Higgs mass and the vacuum expectation value of the Higgs field can be written in terms of the two free parameters of the Higgs potential  $V = \frac{1}{2} \mu^2 \Phi^2 + \frac{1}{4} \lambda \Phi^4$  :

$$v^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{2 \lambda} \qquad M_H^2 = 2v^2 \lambda$$

Also, since 
$$\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g^2}{8M_W^2} = \frac{1}{2v^2}$$

the well measured value of  $G_F$  gives:  $v = (\sqrt{2}G_F)^{-1/2} = 246 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  typical scale of EW symmetry breaking!

After choosing the vacuum:  $M_{W^\pm} = gv/2$  and  $M_Z = \frac{1}{2}v(g'^2 + g^2)^{1/2}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{M_W}{M_Z} = \frac{g'}{(g^2 + g'^2)^{1/2}} = \cos \theta_W \quad (\text{prediction!!})$$

# SM Higgs couplings

Higgs couples to fermion masses:

$$L \ni \sum_f m_f \bar{f} f \cdot (1 + H/v)^2 \Rightarrow \text{largest coupling is to heaviest fermion}$$

- no Higgs coupling to neutrinos
- huge top mass somehow special?

Higgs couples to gauge boson masses:

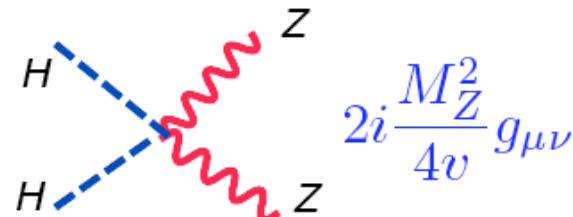
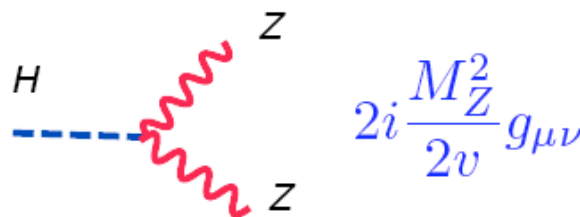
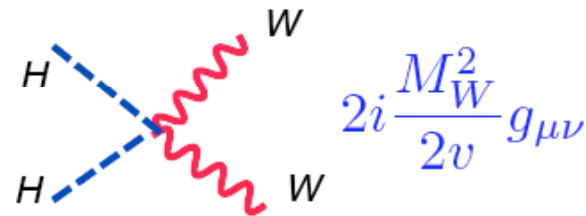
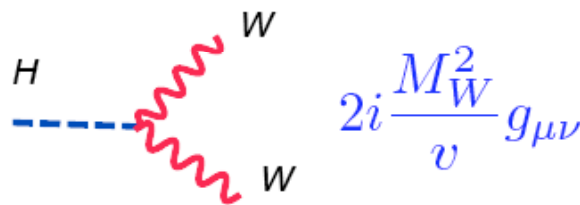
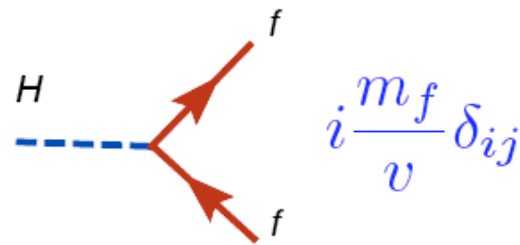
$$L \ni M_W^2 \cdot W^{+\mu} W^-_{\mu} \cdot (1 + H/v)^2 + \frac{1}{2} M_Z^2 \cdot Z^{\mu} Z_{\mu} \cdot (1 + H/v)^2$$

Note that the only unknown parameter is the Higgs mass.

The theory is fully testable since everything else is calculable.

# Feynman Rules

*They are independent  
of the details of the  
Higgs potential except the  
vev*



**Higgs coupling proportional to  $m_f$ ,  $M_W^2$ ,  $M_Z^2$**



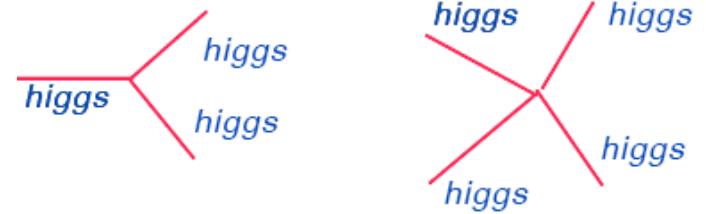
# In summary:

- The Higgs mechanism is introduced in the SM to generate mass:
  - introduce single Higgs doublet  $\Phi$  and self interaction term  $\Phi^4$  in the Lagrangian (simplest case)
  - before spontaneous symmetry breaking: massless  $W_i$ ,  $B$  and complex  $\Phi$
  - Higgs v.e.v.  $\neq 0$  breaks the  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  local gauge symmetry
  - after spontaneous symmetry breaking: massive  $W^\pm$  and  $Z$ , massless  $\gamma$ , physical Higgs boson  $H$
- Only two parameters: the Higgs mass ( $M_H$ ) and the v.e.v. ( $v$ )
- The coupling is proportional to masses (by construction)
- This mechanism is one of the many possibilities, but it is simple, “natural” in the theory, and fully testable:

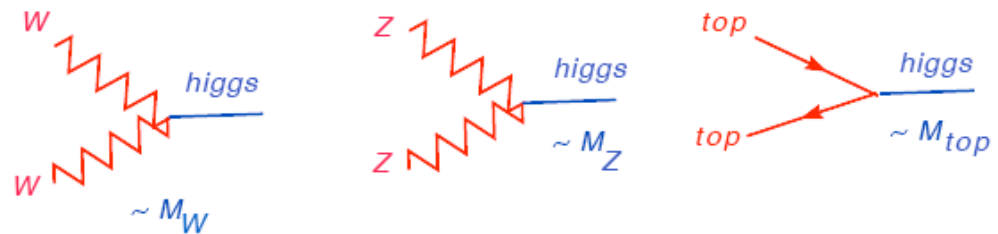
⇒ MUST FIND THE HIGGS BOSON !!!

# What is the Higgs boson?

- ⊗ A neutral elementary scalar field which can interact with himself:



- ⊗ It interacts stronger with short-lived very-massive particles

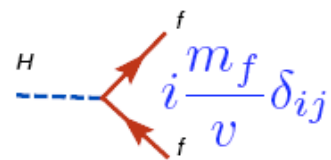


- ⊗ Hard to find it since his interaction with the particles we collide (e, u, d) is very weak, therefore at colliders Higgs bosons must be radiated off heavy states, like W, Z, top

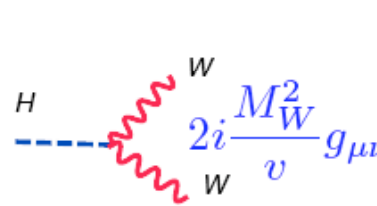


must pay big energy price !

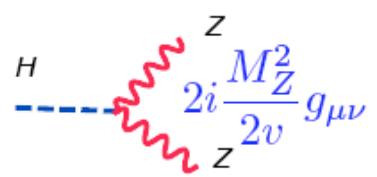
# The end of a Higgs boson



$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow f\bar{f}) = \frac{M_H}{8\pi} \left( \frac{M_f}{v} \right)^2 N_c \left( 1 - \frac{4M_f^2}{M_H^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$



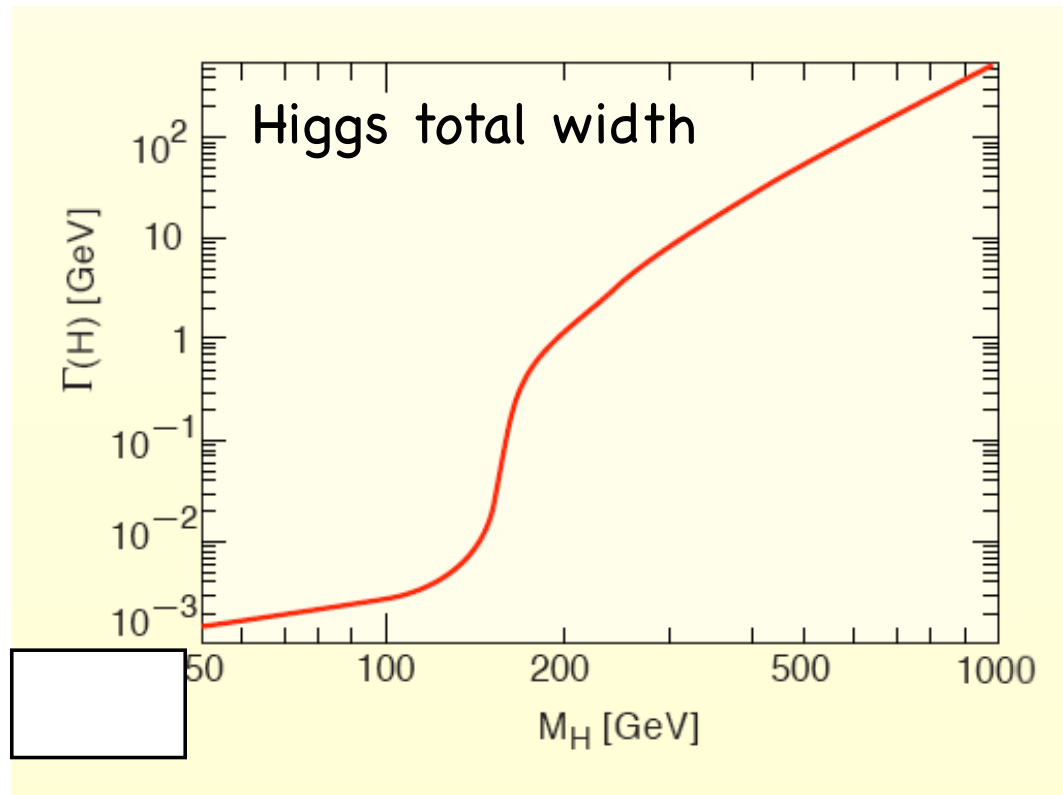
$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow WW) = \frac{M_H}{16\pi} \left( \frac{M_H}{v} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{4M_W^2}{M_H^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \left[ 1 - 4 \left( \frac{M_W^2}{M_H^2} \right) + 12 \left( \frac{M_W^2}{M_H^2} \right)^2 \right]$$



$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow ZZ) = \frac{M_H}{32\pi} \left( \frac{M_H}{v} \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{4M_Z^2}{M_H^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \left[ 1 - 4 \left( \frac{M_Z^2}{M_H^2} \right) + 12 \left( \frac{M_Z^2}{M_H^2} \right)^2 \right]$$

# Higgs boson width

SM prediction:



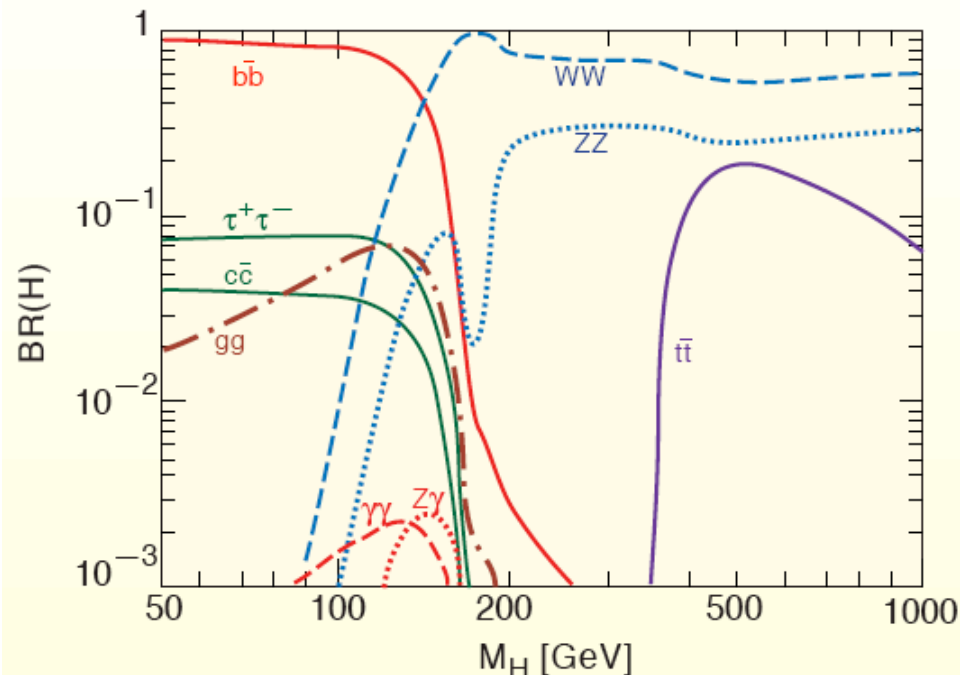
Narrow resonance  
(below detector resolution)  
for  $m_H < 170$  GeV.  
no clear resonance for  
large masses

Higgs lifetime:  
for example,  
if  $m_H \approx 140$  GeV,  
 $\Gamma_H \approx \text{few MeV}$ ,  
 $\tau_H \approx 10^{-22}$  s  
Higgs boson decays  
very quickly

New physics can change significantly this prediction

# Higgs decay branching ratios

The Higgs boson decays into the heaviest massive particle that is allowed by phase space.



The Higgs couplings to:

- fermions grow with their mass
- $W_L$ ,  $Z_L$  grows as  $m^2$ .

Heaviest available fermion (b quark) always dominate, until WW, ZZ thresholds open

At low  $m_H$ :

b → jets dominate, but large backgrounds and b-jet resolution  
→ must use the clean but rare decays into two photons ( $BR \approx 0.2\%$ )

$150 < m_H < 180$  GeV:

“tough window” where only  $WW \rightarrow 2l + MET$  channel is available (Tevatron at work...)

Heavy Higgs:

can be “easily” seen in  $ZZ \rightarrow 4 \text{ leptons}$

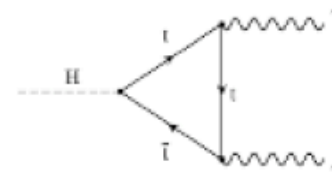
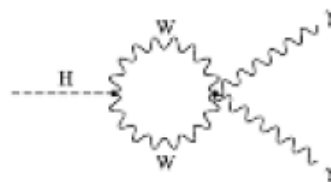
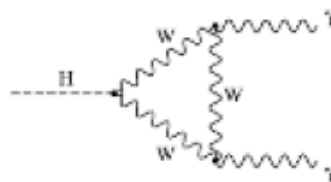
# Higgs Decays to Photons

- Dominant contribution is W loops
- Contribution from top is small

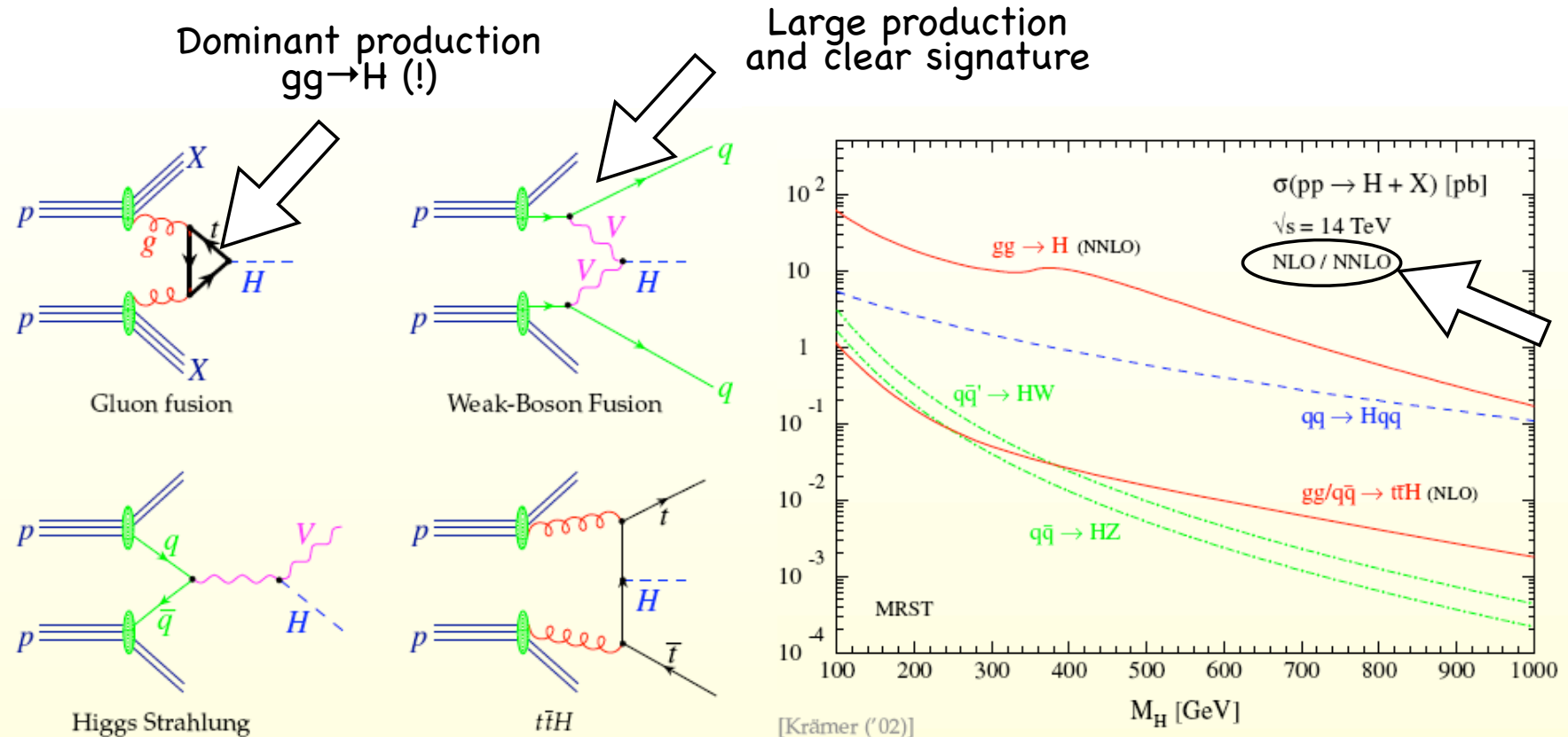
$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \approx \frac{\alpha^3}{256\pi^2 s_\theta^2} \frac{M_H^3}{M_W^2} \left| 7 - \frac{16}{9} + \dots \right|^2$$

W

top



# Higgs production at the LHC



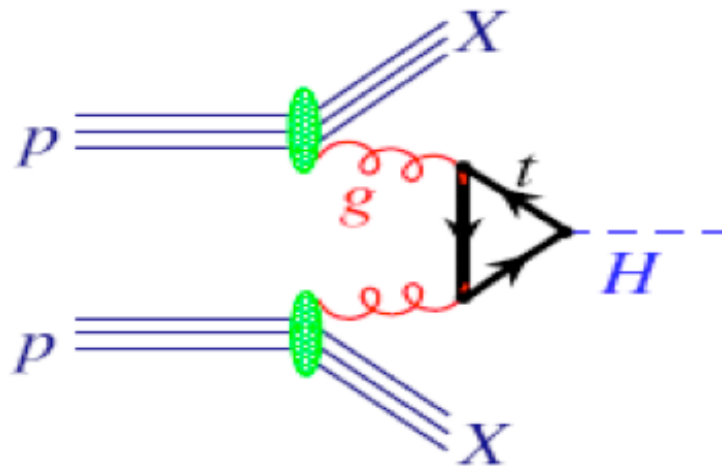
$$\sigma_{gg \rightarrow H} \approx 30 \text{ pb at } m_H \approx 130 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\Rightarrow N_{\text{evt}} = L/\sigma \approx 30\text{k events for Lumi} = 1 \text{ fb}^{-1} !!$$

Can we see them ?

# The gluon-gluon fusion

- ④ Higgs boson does not couple to (massless) gluons directly, but through virtual loops
- ④ Although any quark could circulate in the loop, the largest contribution is due to the top quark since, again, Higgs coupling is proportional to fermion mass



Very hard to compute to higher QCD orders, since we start already with a loop.

Trick used: assume effective H-gg coupling in the limit  $m_t \rightarrow \infty$  (shown to be valid for  $m_H < m_t$ )

NNLO reached using this approach

- ④ it probes the structure of the vacuum; therefore it would be sensitive to the presence of new heavy particles BSM

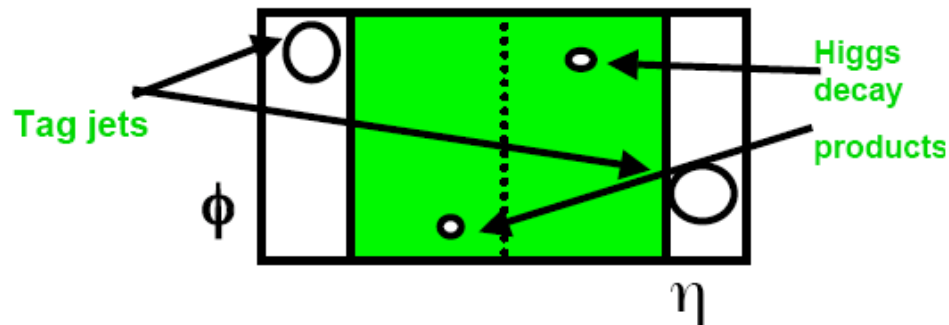
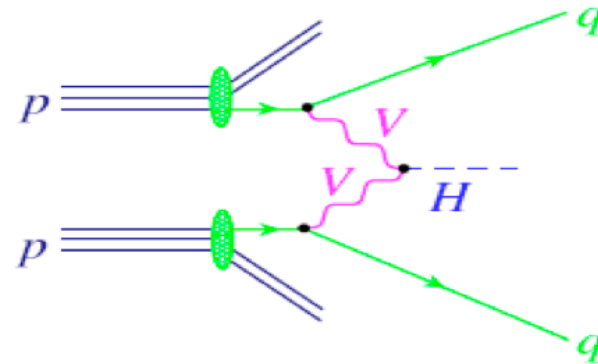


# Vector Boson Fusion

- EW process  $\Rightarrow$  lower cross section than gg fusion

- very clear signature:

- quarks get little kick when radiating W or Z boson  
 $\rightarrow$  two low- $E_T$  and forward jets
- no color flow  $\rightarrow$  rapidity gap



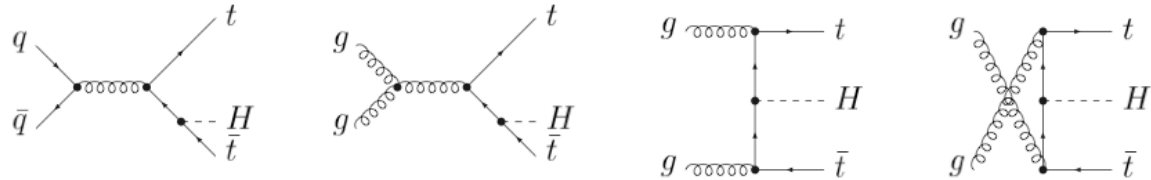
But: remember the troubles with MB+UE in the jet reconstruction in the forward regions !

- sensitive to the nature of coupling to vector bosons

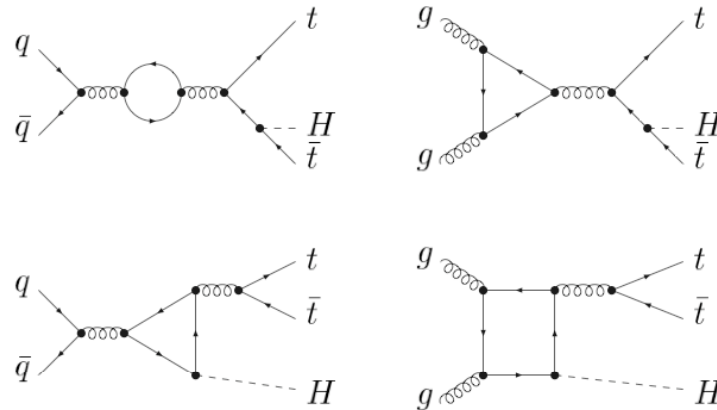
# Diagrams, diagrams ...

case for  $t\bar{t}H$  production:

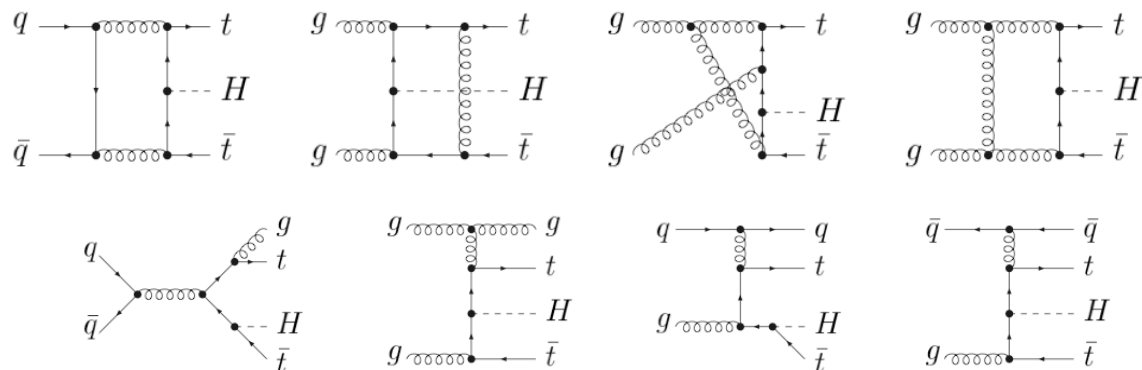
LO:



NLO:



**Nucl.Phys.B653:151-203,2003**  
e-Print: [hep-ph/0211352](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0211352)



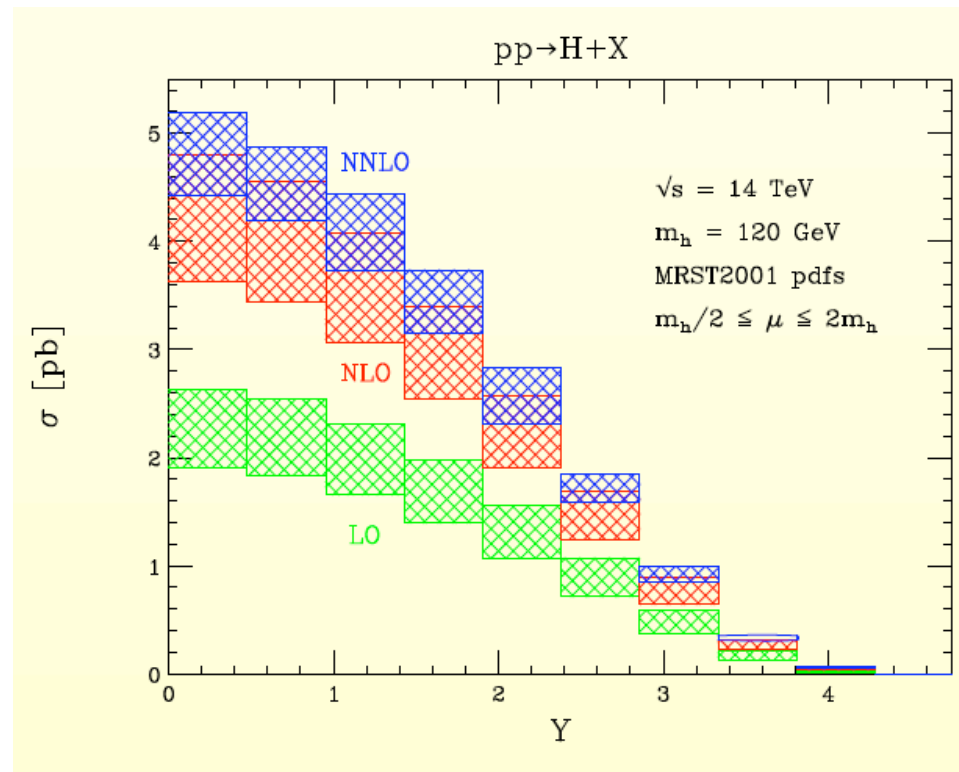
# NLO and NNLO corrections to $gg \rightarrow H$

Singularly large NLO corrections:

$$K_{\text{NLO}} \approx 1.7$$

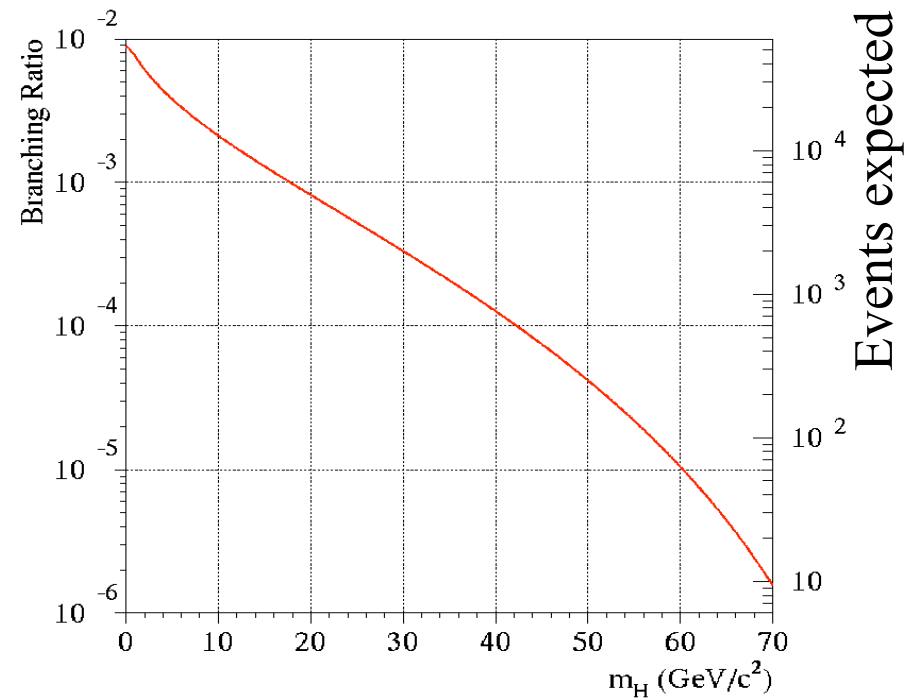
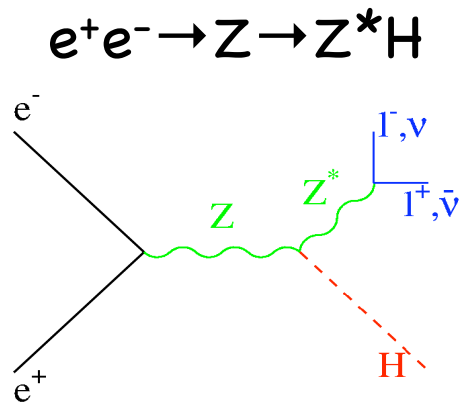
$$K_{\text{NLO}+\text{NNLO}} \approx 2$$

origin of these large corrections: virtual and soft gluons



# Experimental searches

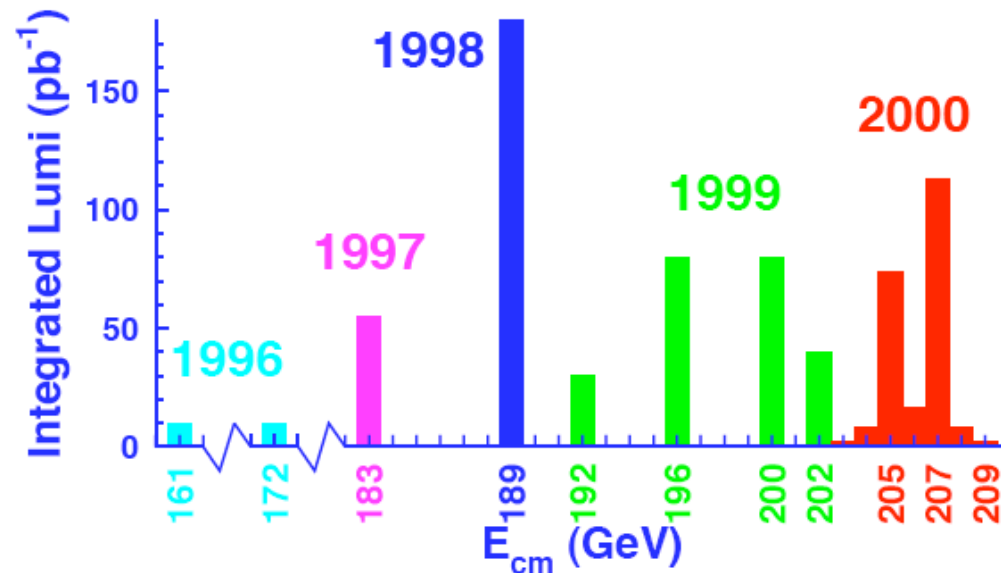
# Direct Searches at LEP 1



$0.0 < m_H < 65 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  excluded at 95% C.L.

# Direct searches at LEP II

LEP II  
luminosity

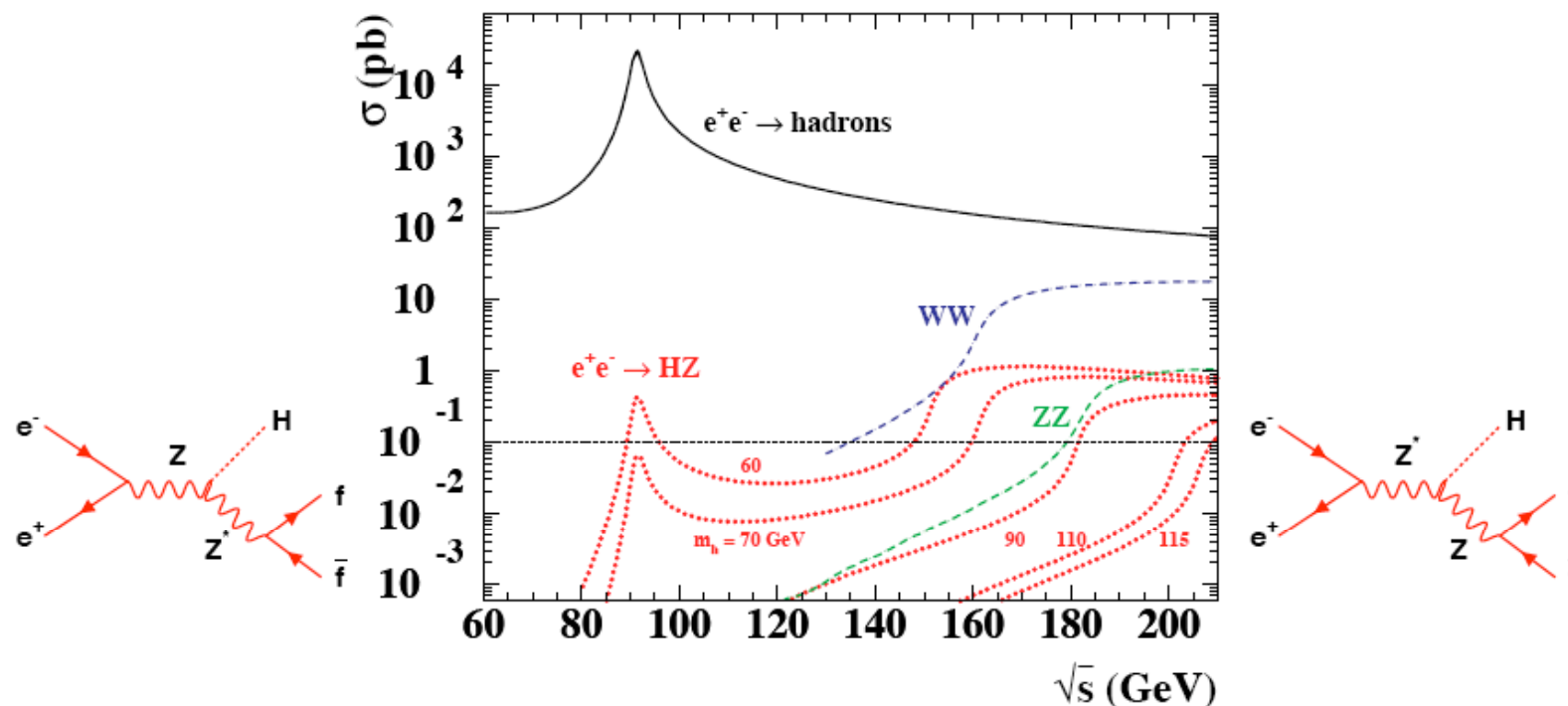


c.m. energy raised in steps from  $M_Z$  to 208 GeV.

Impressive machine performance:

- increase beam energy, RF system pushed beyond design
- delivered high lumi ( $\approx 0.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )

## Higgs production cross-section



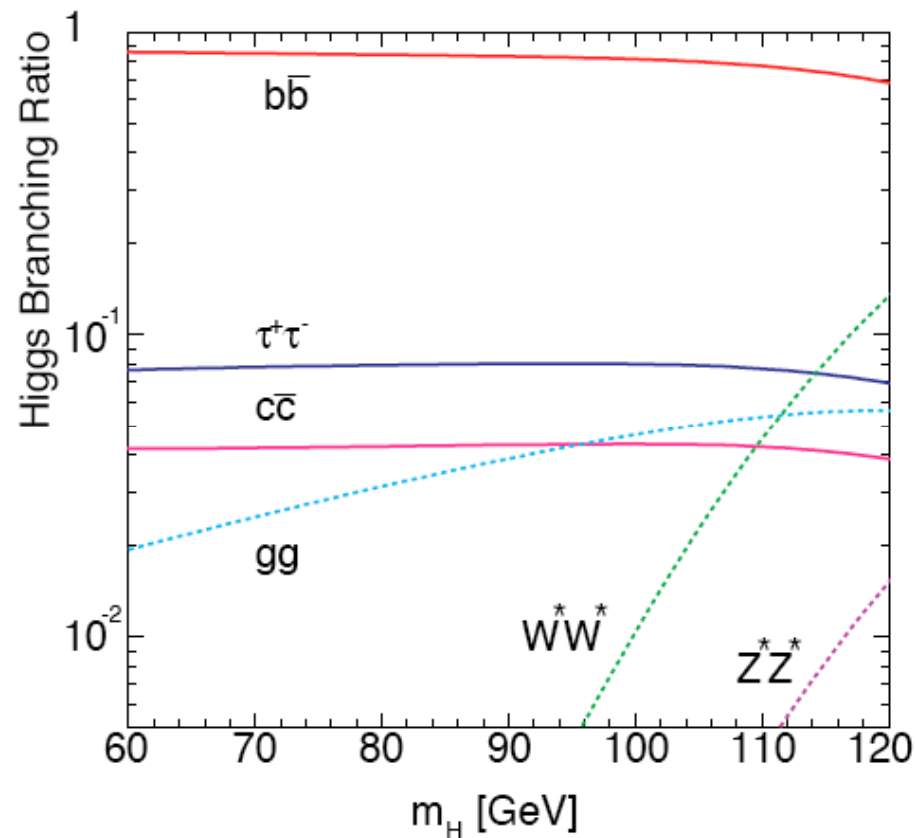
With a luminosity of about  $100\text{pb}^{-1}$  and reasonable detection efficiency, sensitive to a cross section of  $O(0.1)$  pb.

Need LEP2 to produce  $m_H \gtrsim 65$  GeV. Reach  $m_H \lesssim \sqrt{s} - M_Z$

Must take into account many background processes

# Higgs decay branching ratios

“Higgs couples to mass”



BR(%)	Higgs 115 GeV	Z boson
$q\bar{q}$		70
$b\bar{b}$	74	15
$c\bar{c}$	4	12
$g\bar{g}$	6	0
$\ell^+\ell^-$		10
$\tau^+\tau^-$	7	3
$\nu\bar{\nu}$		20
$W^*W^*$	8	
$Z^*Z^*$	1	

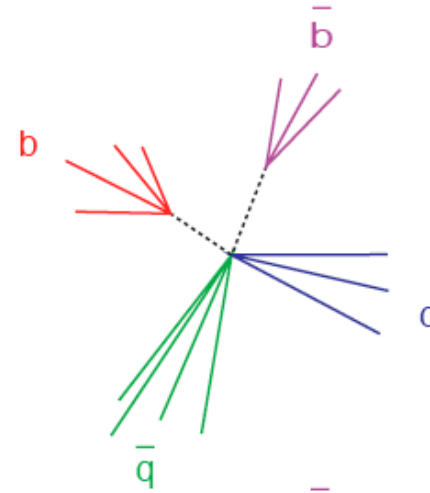
Clearly, favoured channel  
is  $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and  $Z \rightarrow q\bar{q}$



# HZ decays

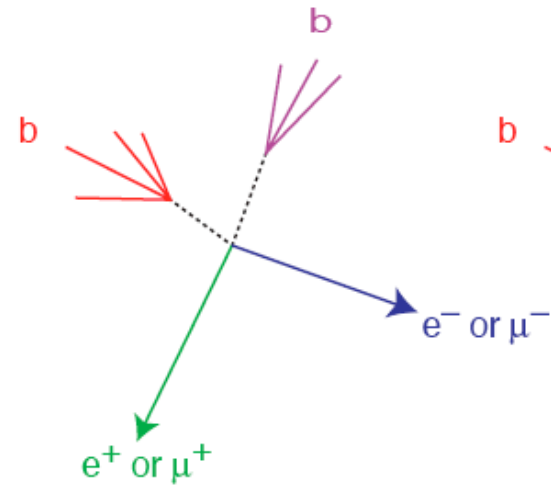
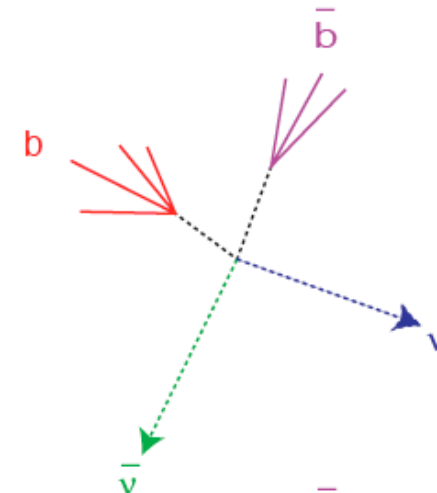
Four jets, 60%

$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, Z \rightarrow q\bar{q}$



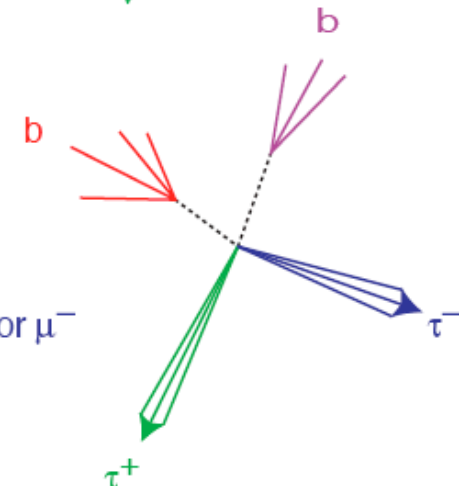
Missing energy, 18%

$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$



Leptonic, 6%

$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}, Z \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$

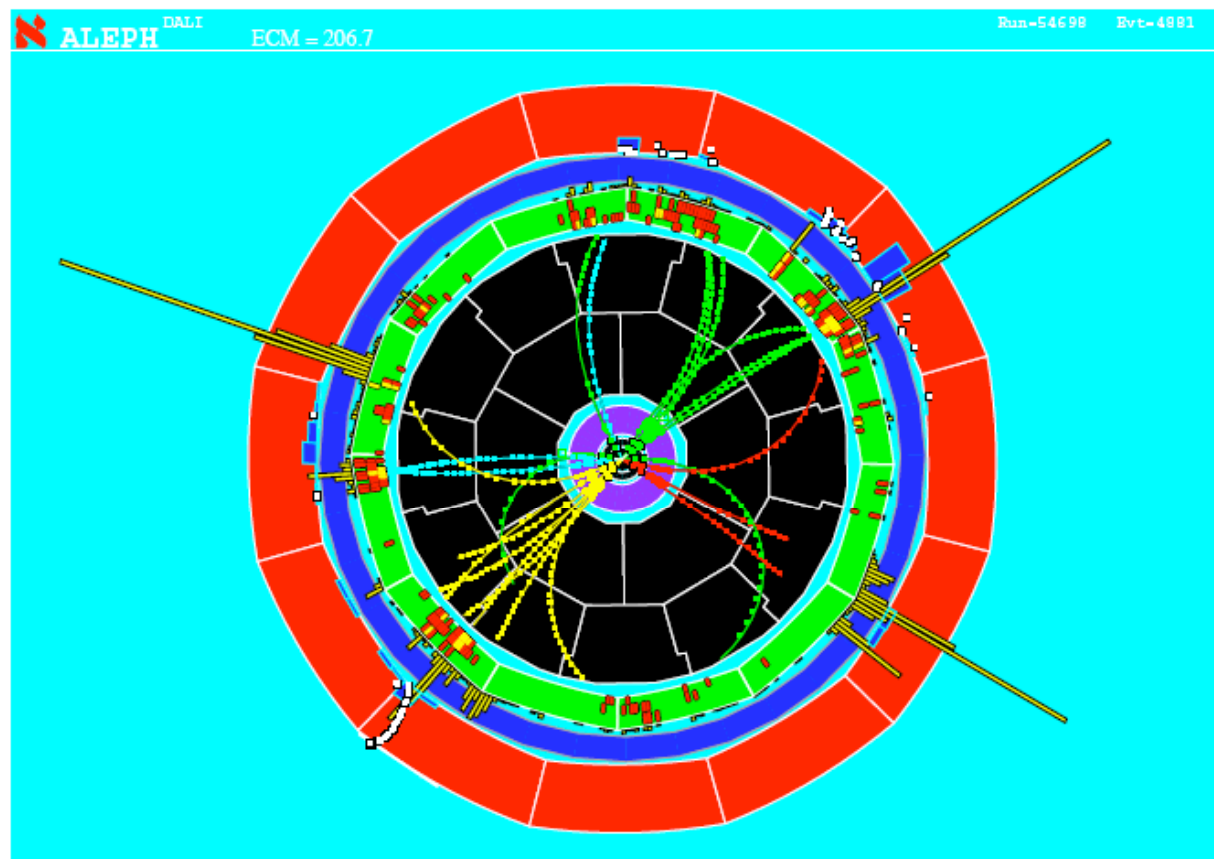
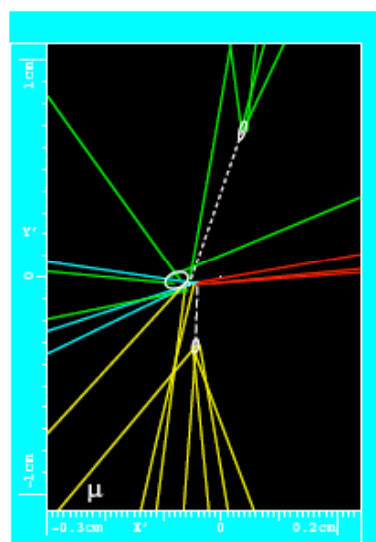


Tau channels, 9%

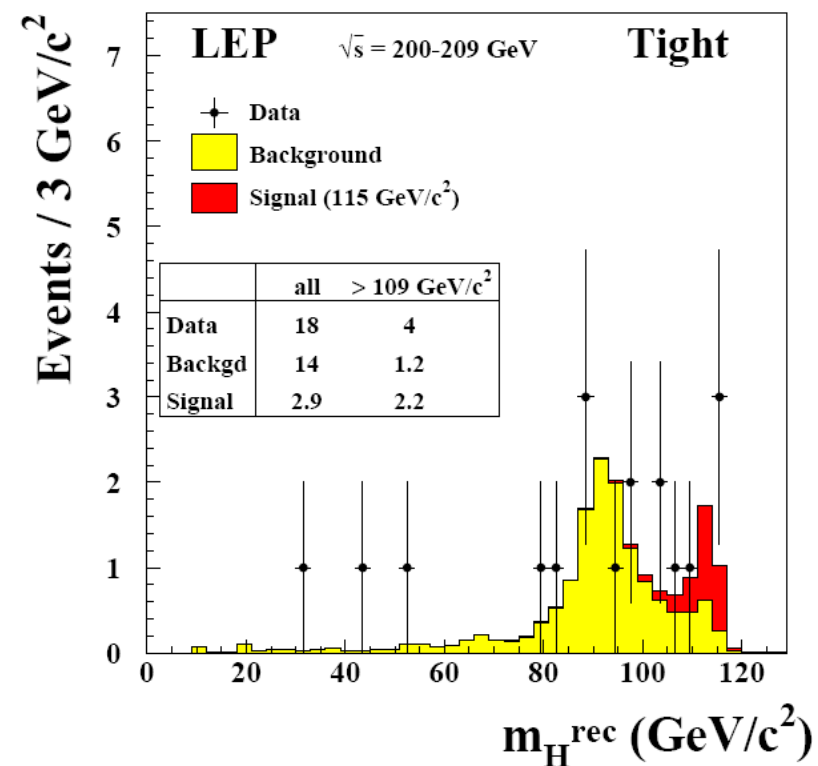
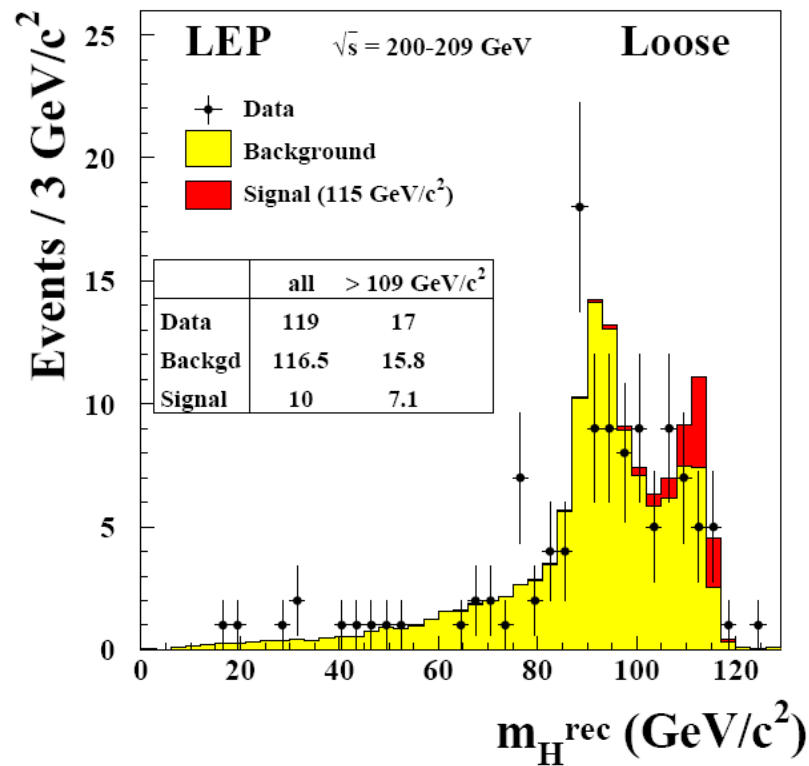
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}(\tau^+\tau^-), Z \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-(q\bar{q})$

## ALEPH Events - four jets with $b$ tags

Zoom right inside  
the beam pipe:



# Higgs candidates mass



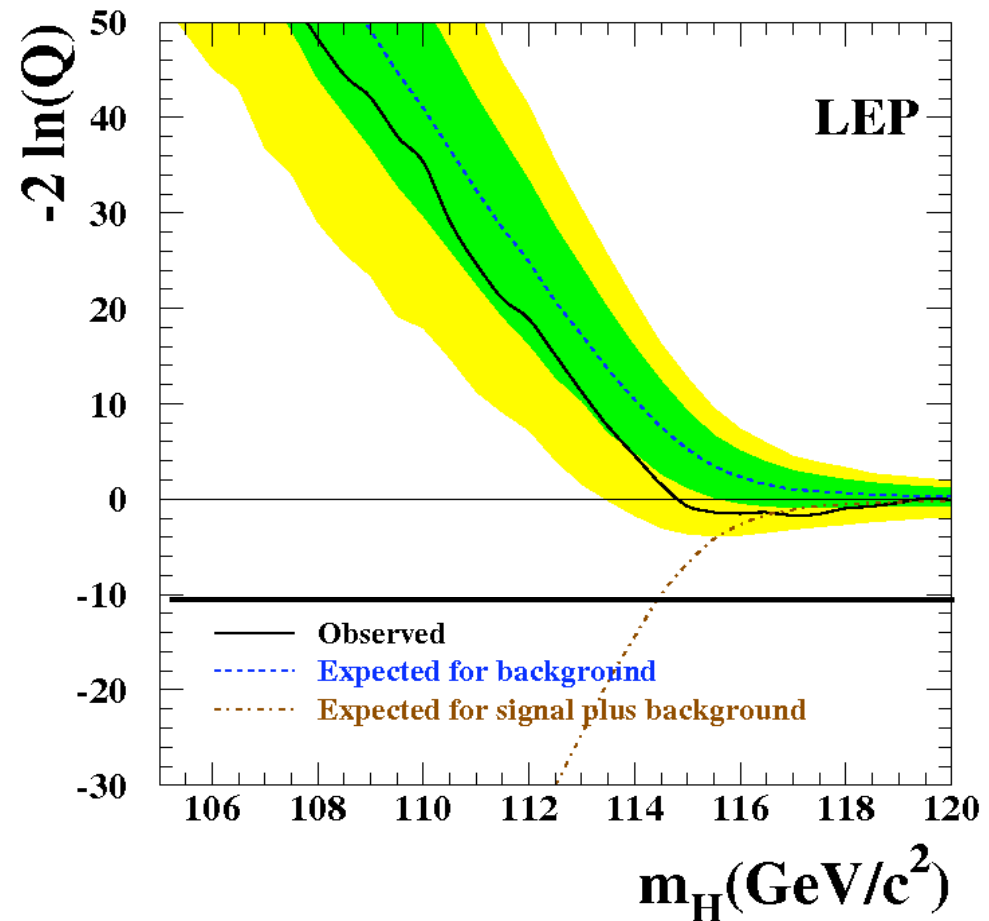
# Final LEP II result

$$M_H > 114.4 \text{ GeV}$$

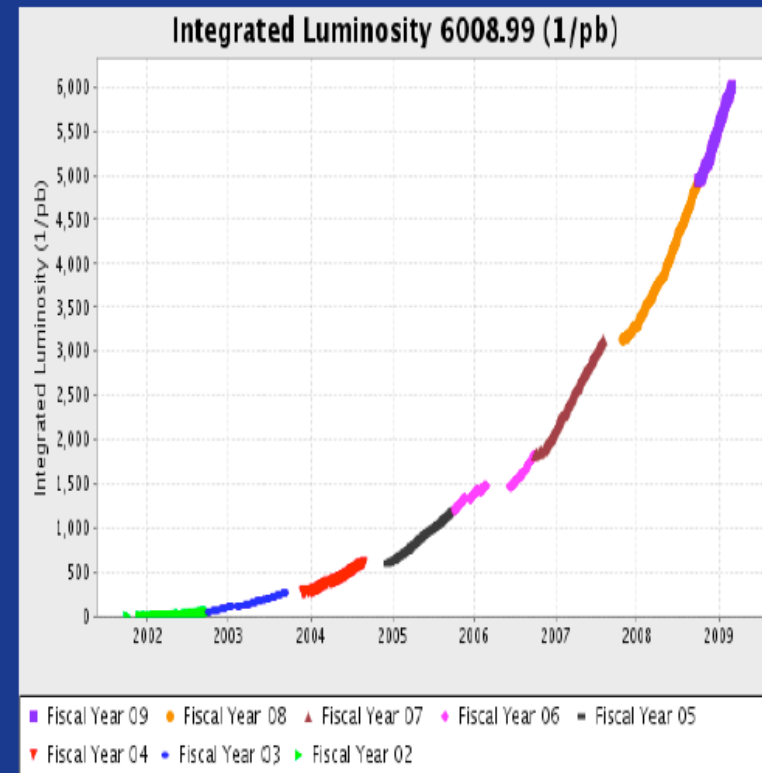
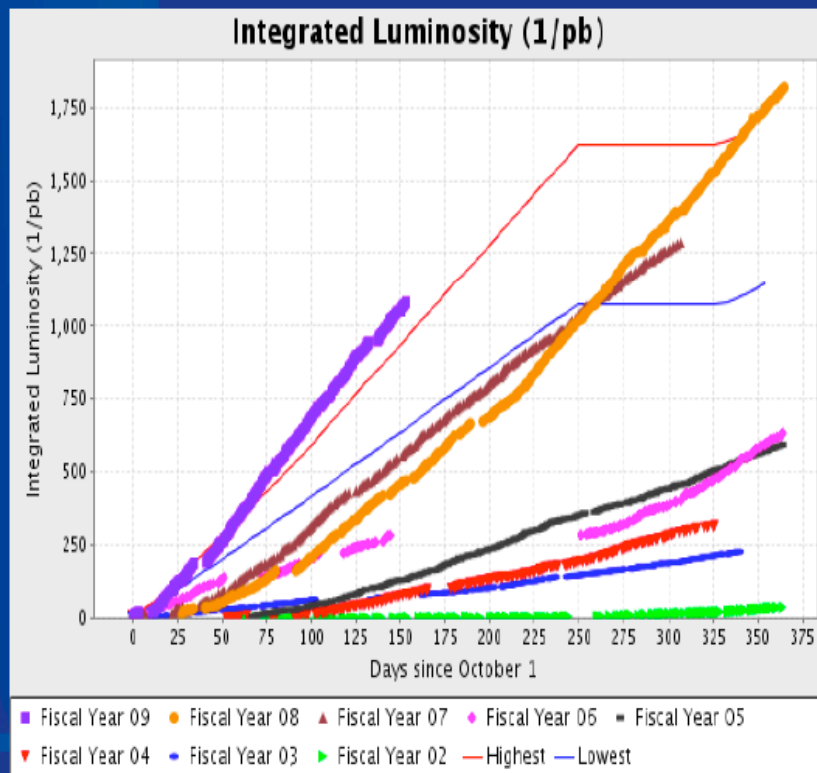
at 95%CL

Excess at 115 GeV would  
happen in 9% cases  
without signal

But signal remains the  
best fit



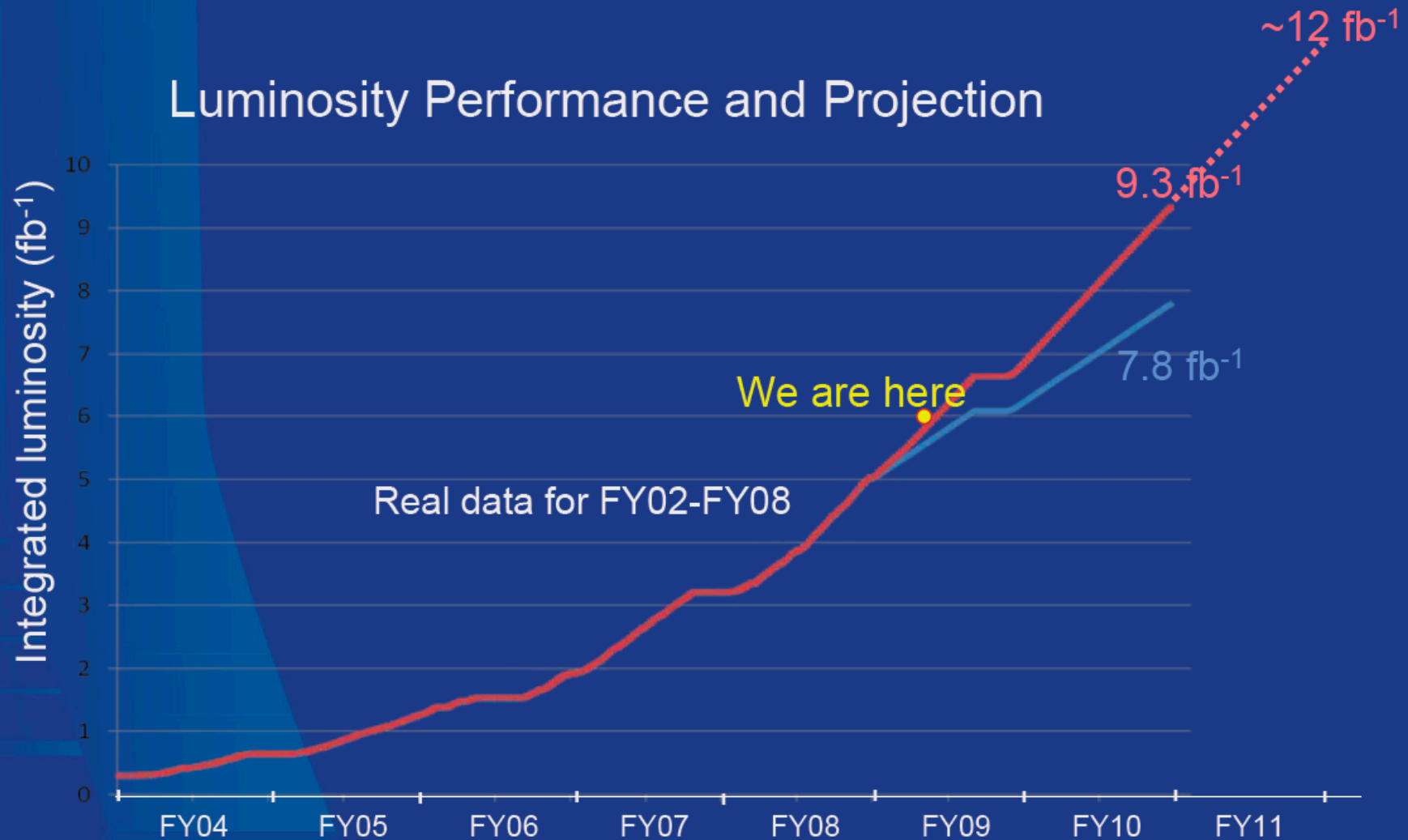
# The Energy Frontier: Tevatron





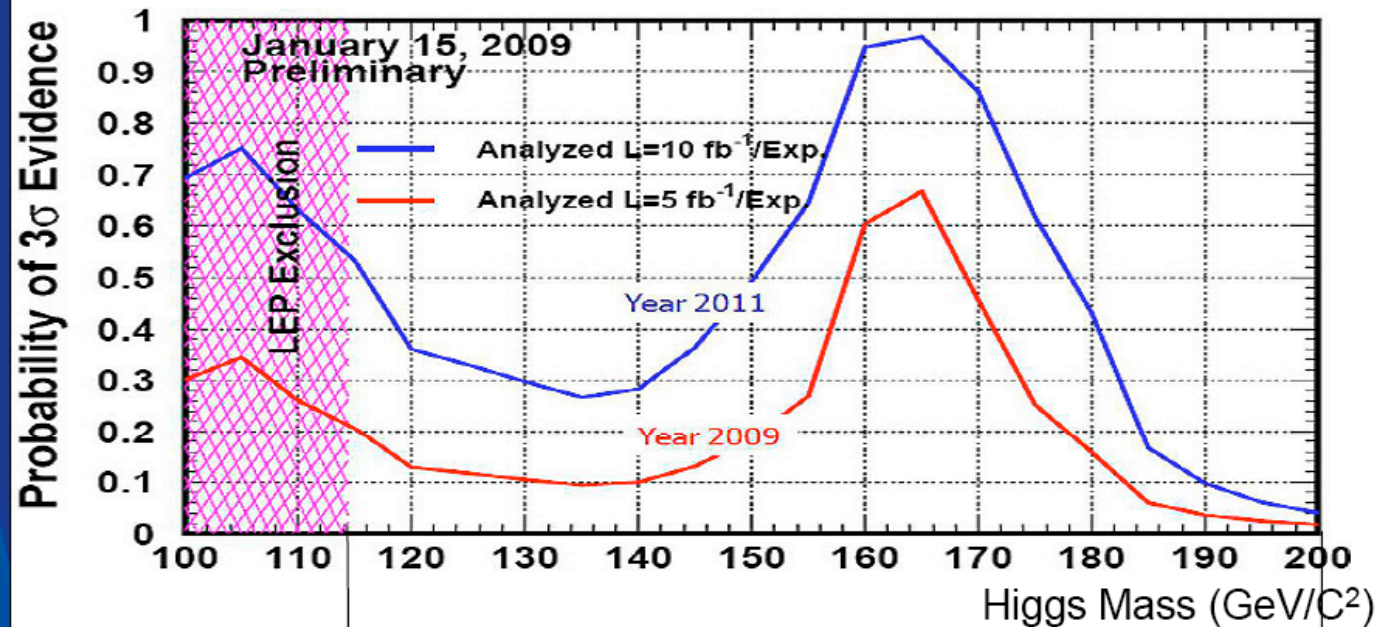
# The Energy Frontier: Tevatron

## Luminosity Performance and Projection



# The Energy Frontier: Tevatron Higgs

Sensitivity Projection (Region favored by  $M_{\text{top}}$ ,  $M_W$ , ... meas.s)



## Search for the Higgs Particle

Status as of March 2009

Excluded by  
LEP Experiments  
95% confidence level



100

114

120

140

160

170

180

185

200  $\text{GeV}/c^2$

Higgs mass values

90% confidence level  
95% confidence level

Excluded by  
Tevatron  
Experiments



Excluded by  
Indirect Measurements  
95% confidence level



# Higgs searches at Tevatron

- Multiple direct searches at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$  GeV
- Luminosity: 2.0–3.6 (CDF) 0.9–4.2(D0)  $\text{fb}^{-1}$
- Production:  $gg \rightarrow H$ ,  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow VH$ ,  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow q'q'\bar{q}H$
- Higgs decay modes:  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $W^+W^-$ ,  $\tau^+\tau^-$ ,  $\gamma\gamma$
- 75 mutually excluding final states (23 for CDF, 52 for D0)

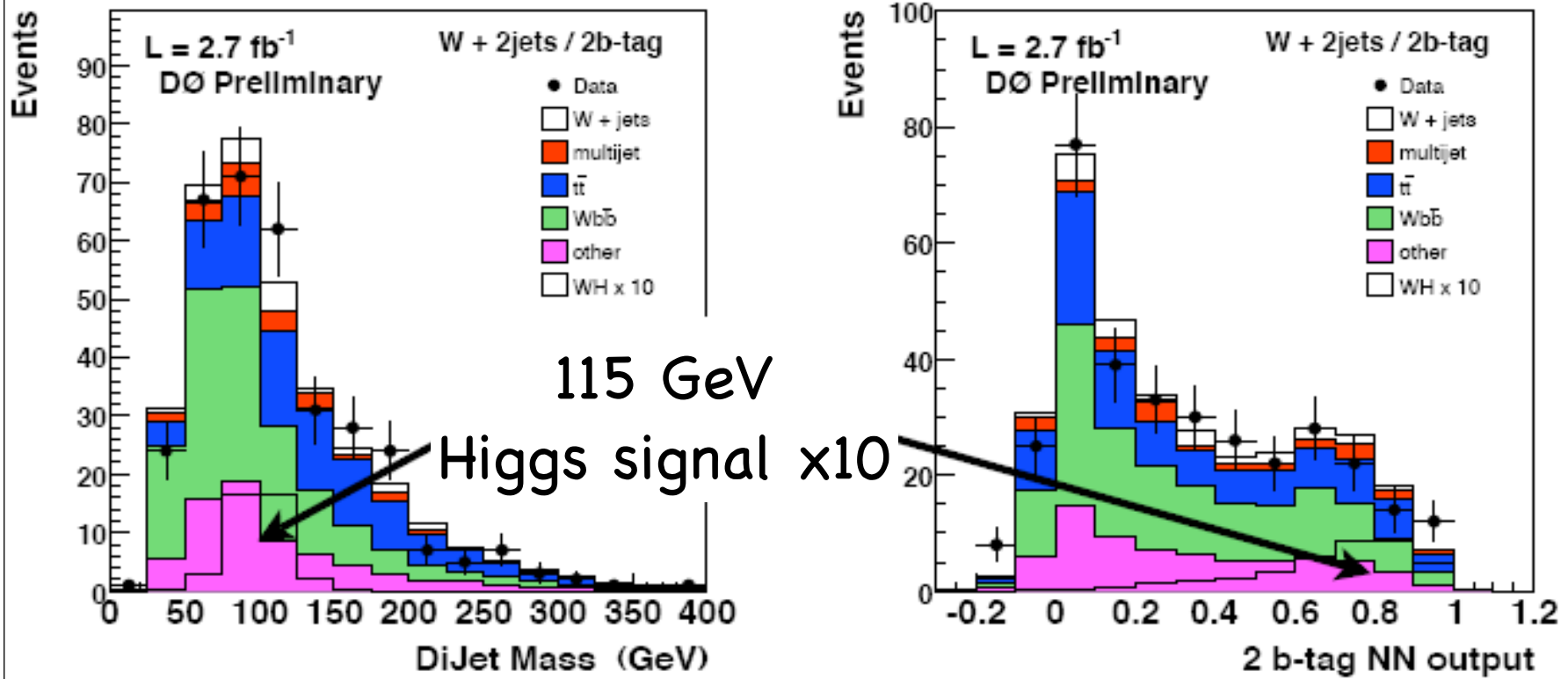
Two fronts:

$M_H \approx 115$  GeV      best channel  $WH \rightarrow l\bar{u}bb$

$M_H \approx 165$  GeV      best channel  $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\bar{l}l\bar{l}$

Well understood detectors, b-tagging, etc.

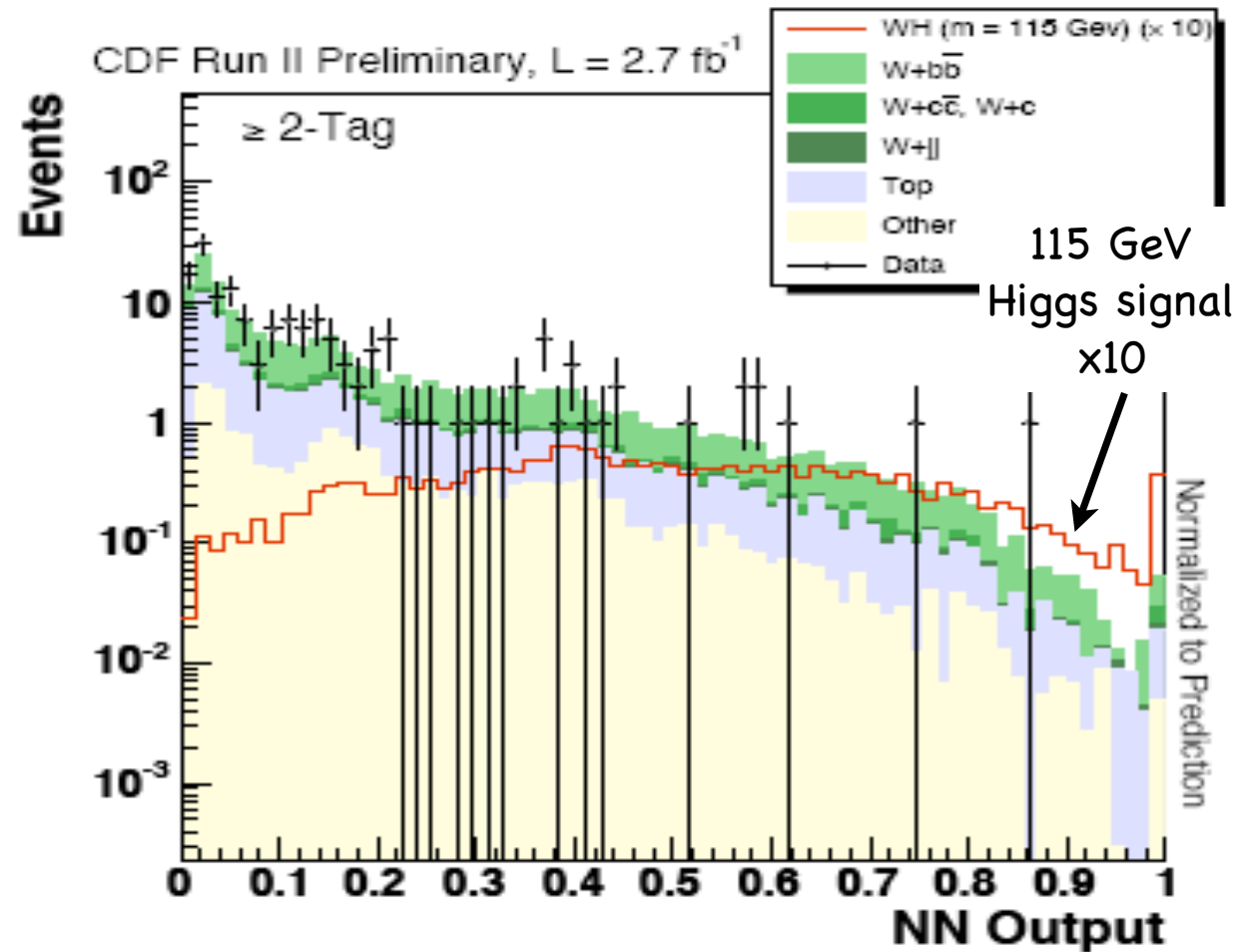
# D0: $WH \rightarrow l\nu bb$



$2.7 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ : expected 6.4, observed 6.7  $s/b = 1/20$

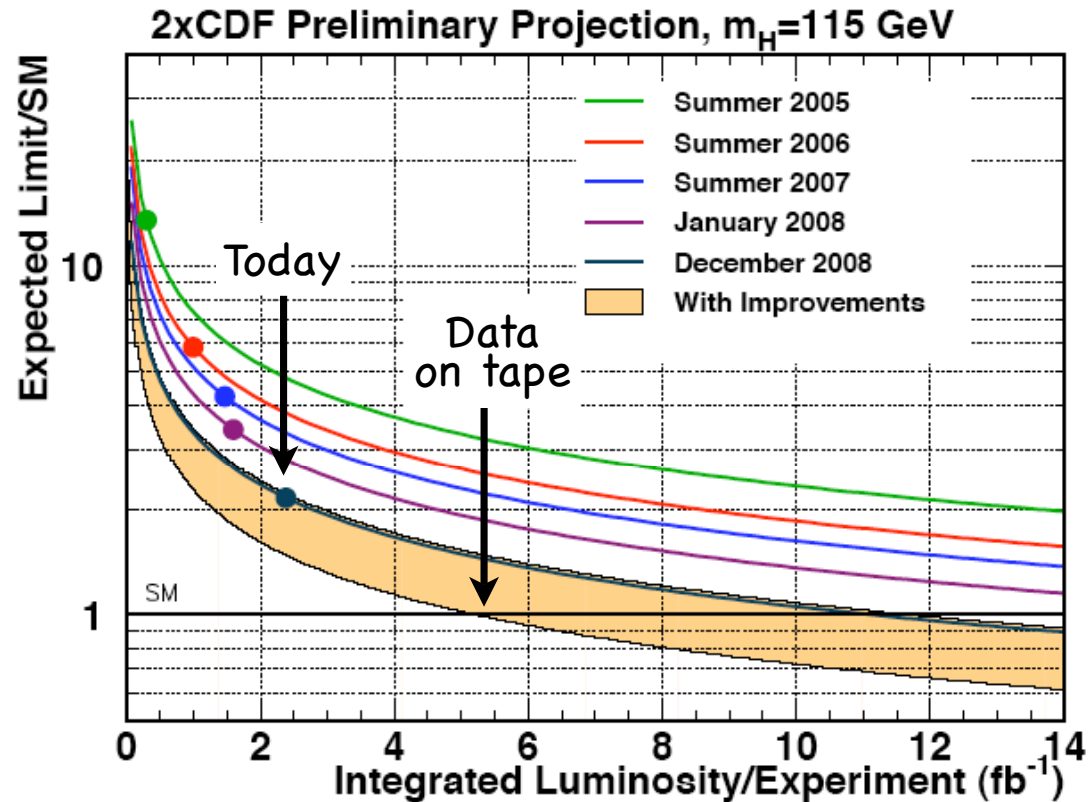
# CDF: $WH \rightarrow l\nu b\bar{b}$

$2.7 \text{ fb}^{-1}$   
Expected 4.8  
Observed 5.6  
s/b 1/10



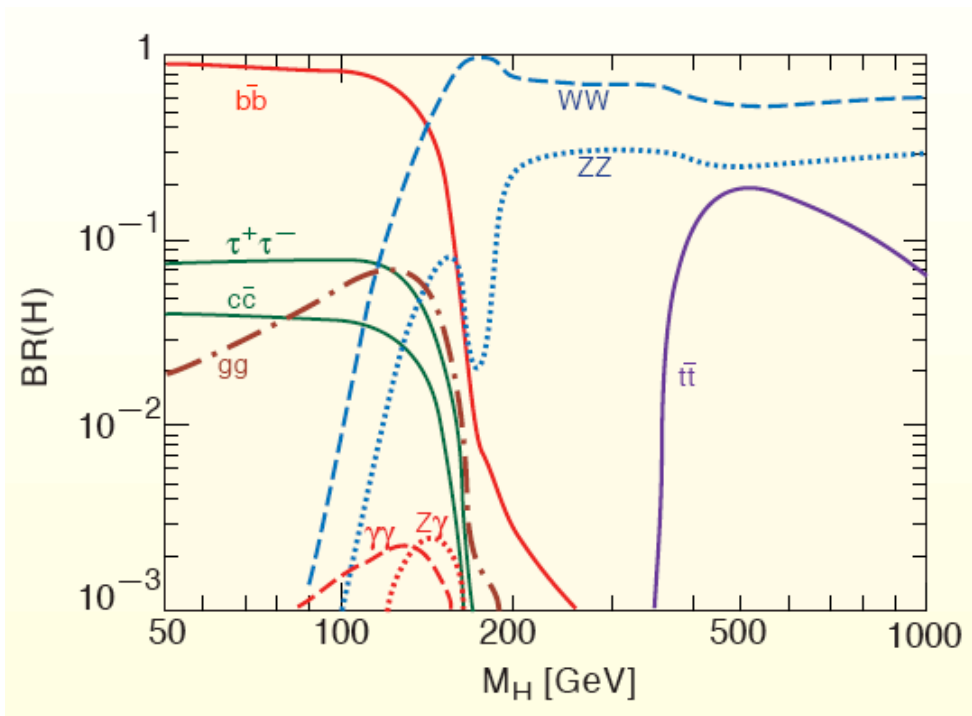


# Tevatron: future prospects



In the near future, the two experiment combined should be able to exclude  $m_H = 115$  GeV with  $\approx 6 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  each

# Intermediate masses:



The  $H \rightarrow WW$  is the best channel for  $m_H < 200$  GeV in which the Tevatron could have something to say



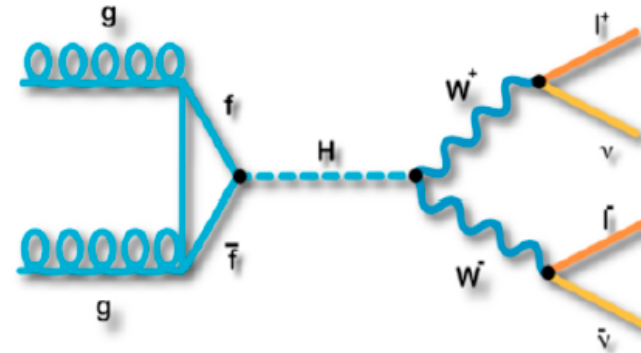
# SM Higgs: $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\bar{l}l\bar{l}$

signature:

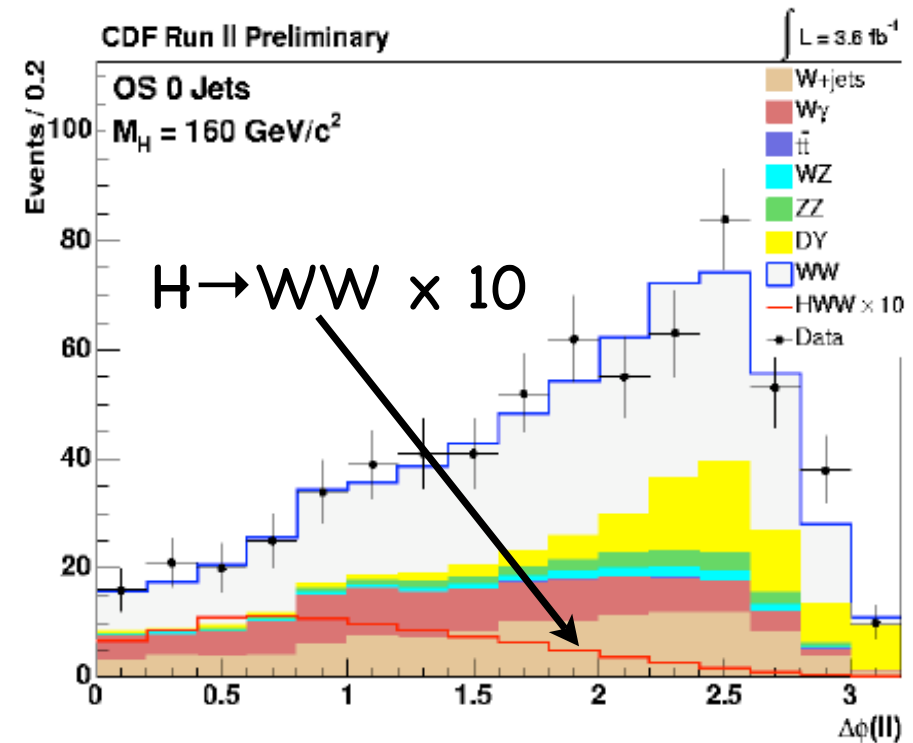
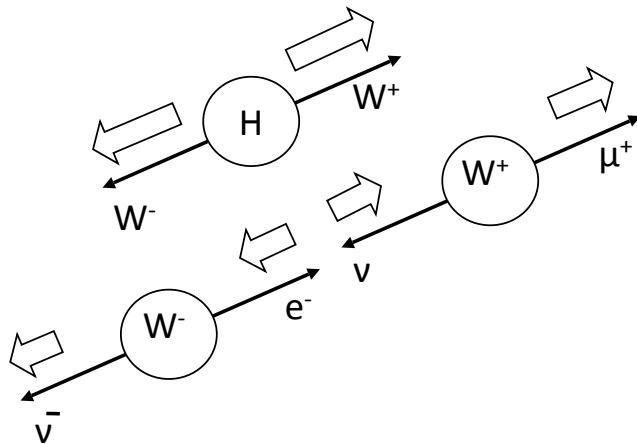
two high- $p_T$  leptons and  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$

background:

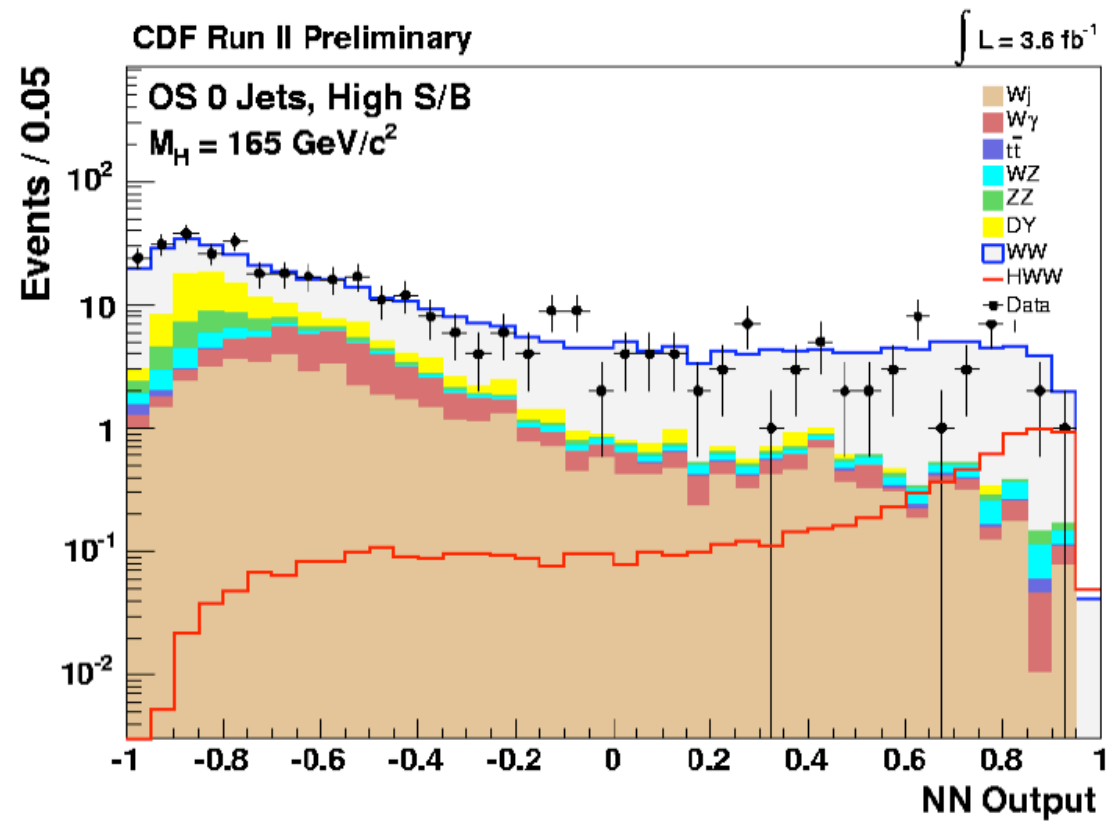
$WW$  and top in di-lepton decay



Help from spin correlation:  
the two charged leptons  
go in the same direction



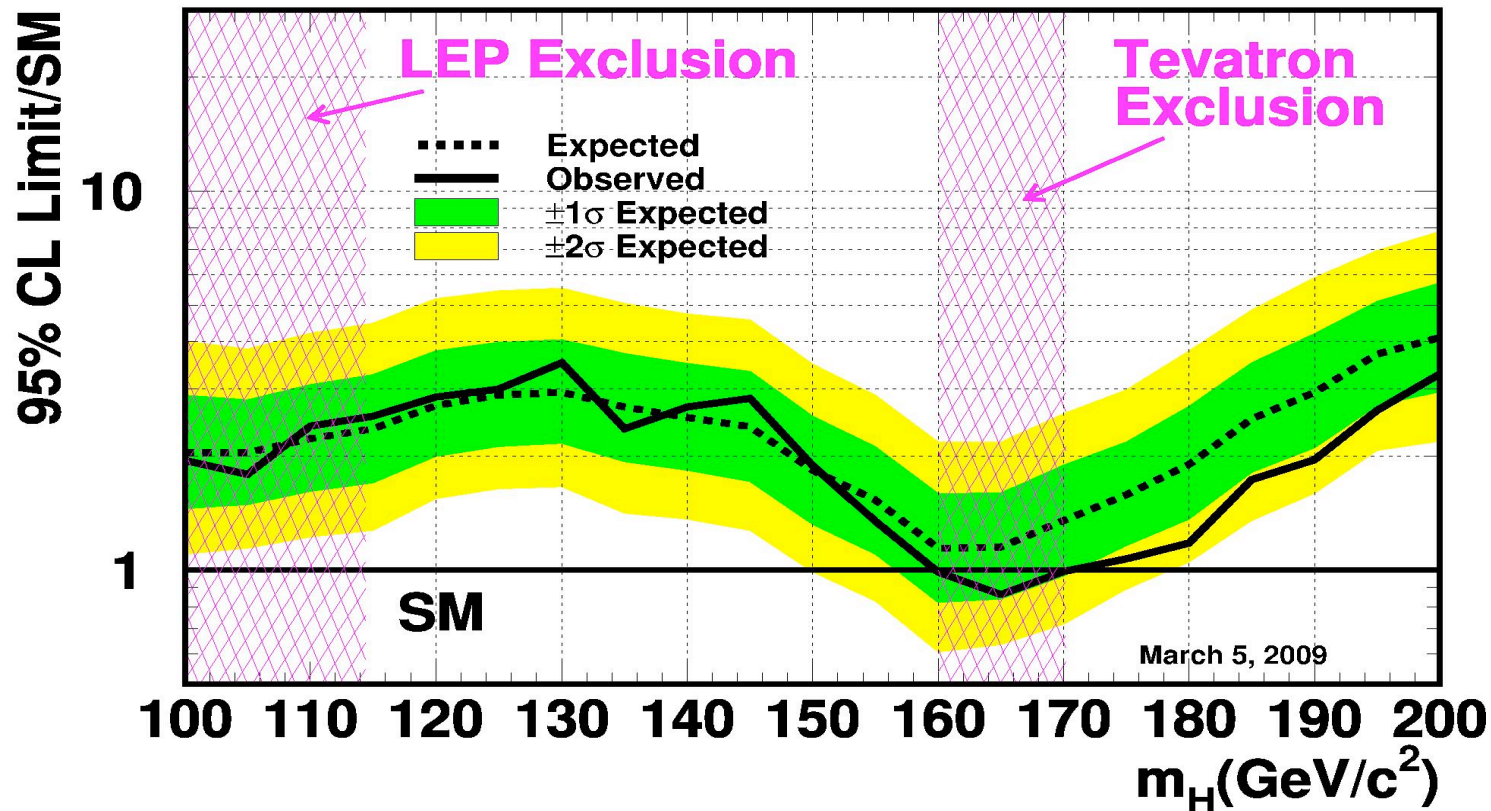
# SM Higgs: $H \rightarrow WW$



# Tevatron Higgs Combination

75 mutually excluding channels !!!

Tevatron Run II Preliminary,  $L=0.9-4.2 \text{ fb}^{-1}$



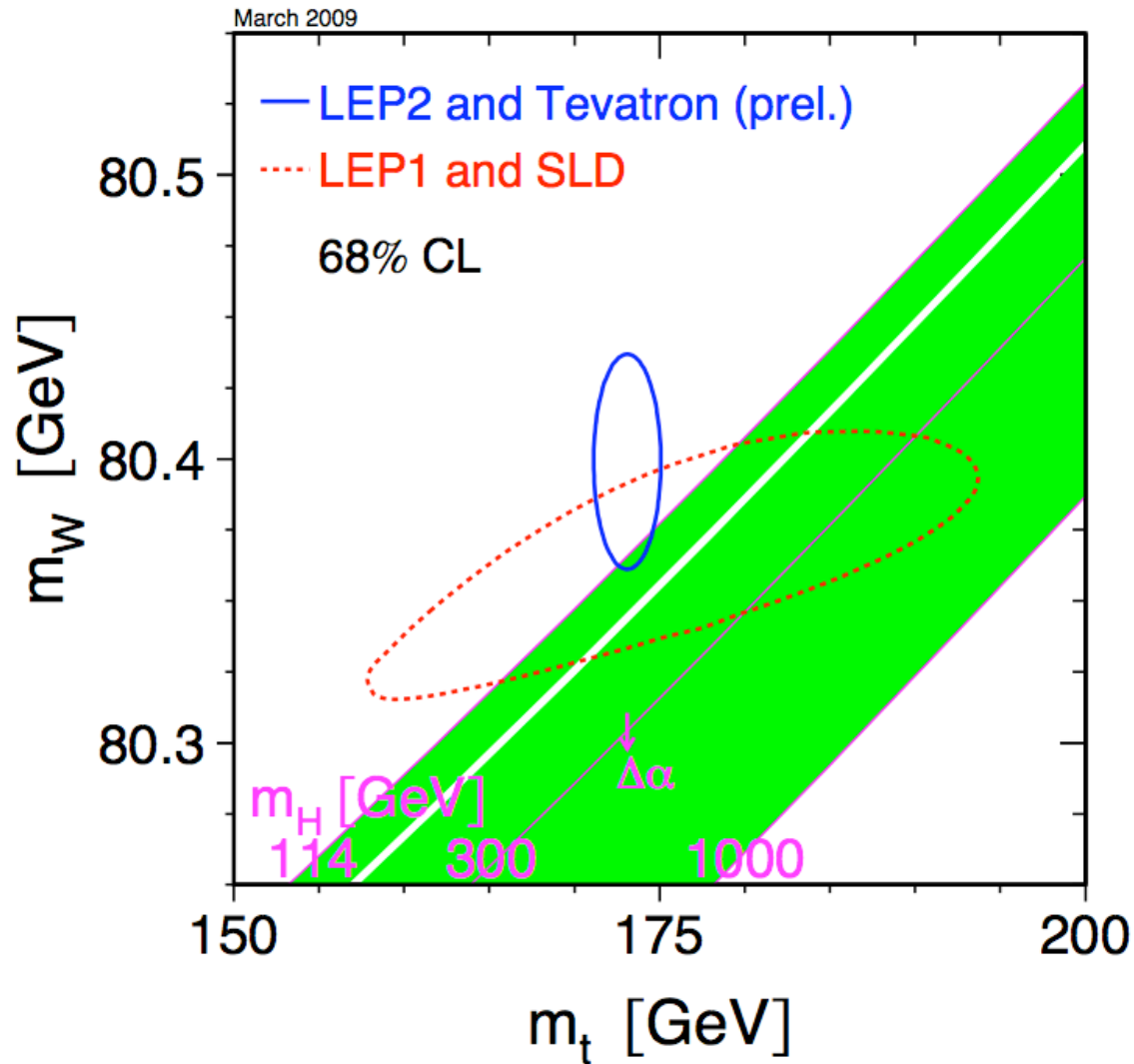
Note the fluctuation at 160–170 GeV



# Indirect limits

- ④ The consistency of the data can be used to test the use of EW correction
- ④ It also constrains the Higgs mass

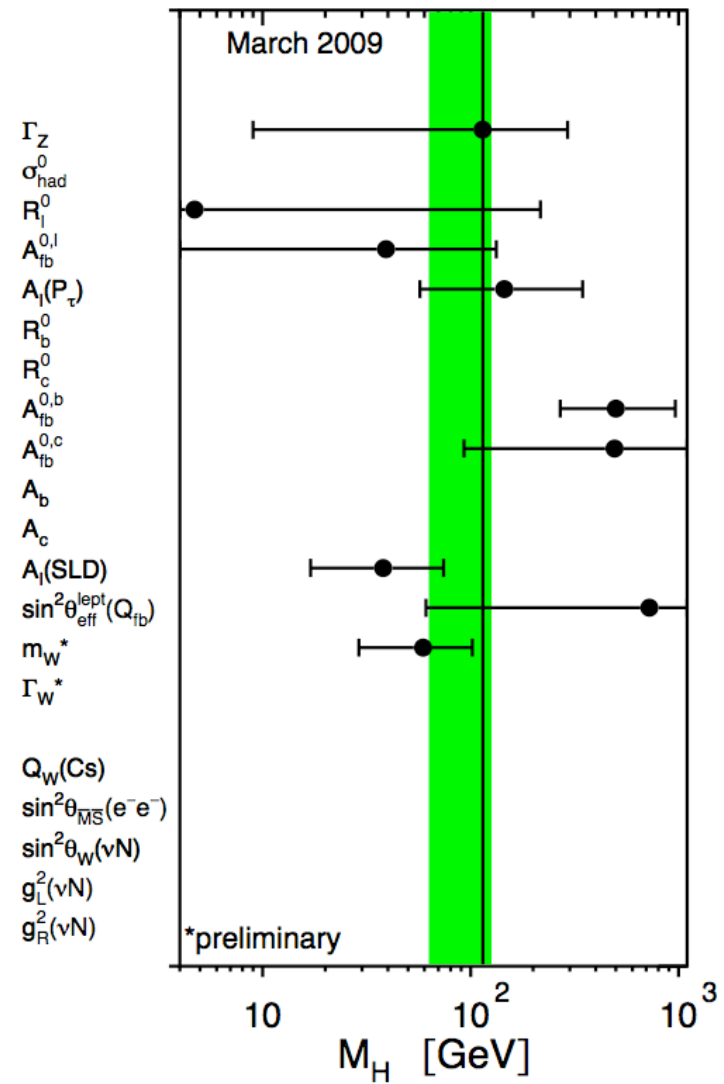
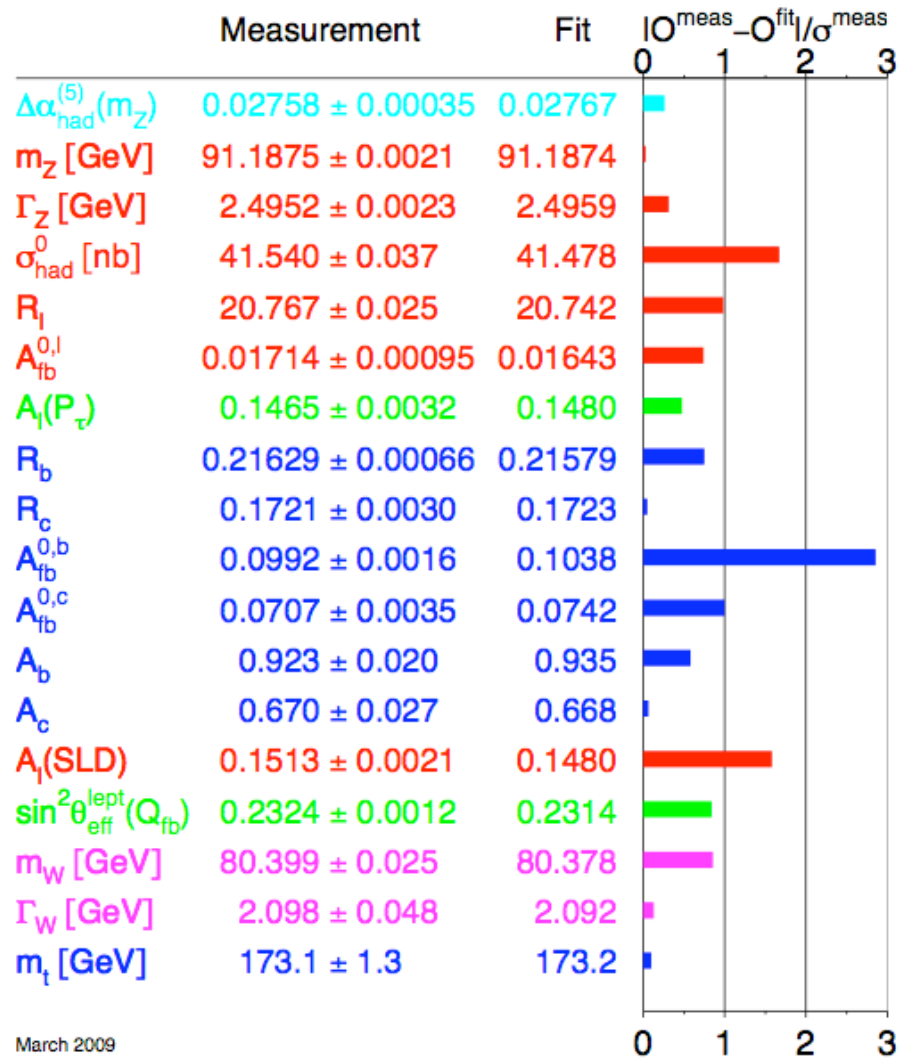
# The Electroweak fit:



Indirect searches:  
EW variables  
depend on  
 $(m_t)^2$  and  $\ln(m_H)$   
through radiative  
corrections

Direct and  
indirect  
searches agree:

$$M_H \approx 100 \text{ GeV}$$



# Limits on Higgs mass

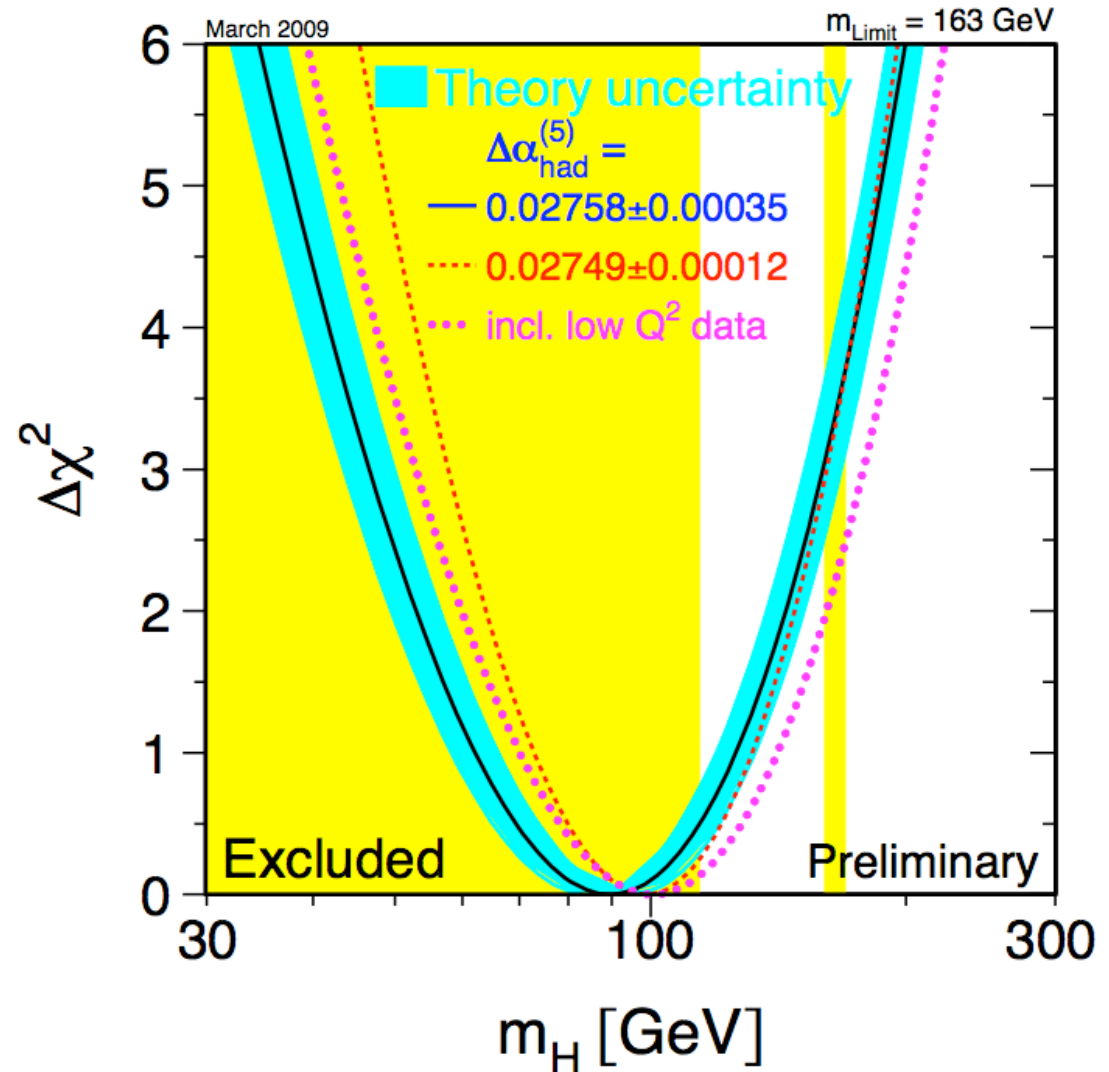
$\Delta\chi^2$  from precision EW  
high  $Q^2$  measurements  
from LEP, SLD, CDF, D0  
vs.  $m_H$ , assuming the SM  
to be the correct theory  
of nature.

The preferred value is  
 $m_H = 90^{+36}_{-27}$  GeV at 68% CL

Upper limits:

$m_H < 163$  GeV (one sided  
95% CL)

$m_H < 191$  GeV (when  
including LEPII exclusion)



# Theoretical arguments on $m_H$ limits

If the Higgs mass value is too large, the amplitude for

$$WW \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ$$

exceeds the unitarity bound in perturbative theory.

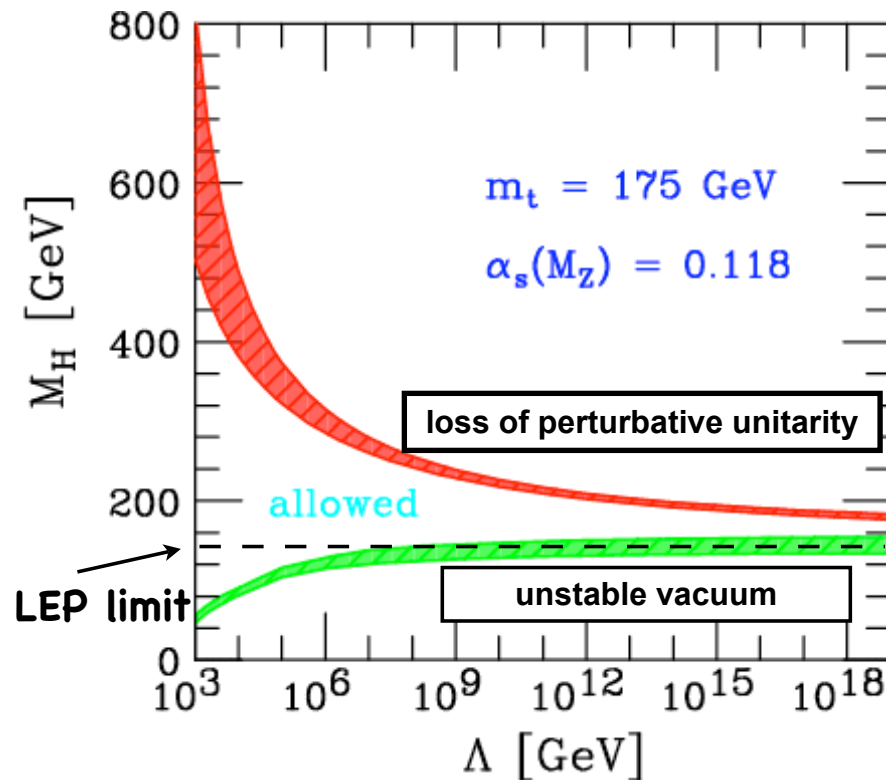
As a consequence, either  $m_H$  is below  $\approx 700$  GeV or there should be new physics at the TeV scale

Note that this is a rigorous argument !!



# Theoretical arguments on $m_H$ limits

Assuming SM with a single Higgs doublet (i.e. no SUSY Higgs extensions):



$\Lambda$  = energy scale for new physics  
(above it SM no longer valid)

Upper limit → “triviality”:  
 $\lambda \cdot \ln(\Lambda/m_T) > 1 \Rightarrow$  no pert. unitarity  
 $(\lambda = \frac{1}{2}(m_H/v)^2 = \text{Higgs self coupling})$

Lower limit → “vacuum instability”:  
 i.e. requirement that spontaneous  
 symmetry breaking occurs:  
 $V(v) < V(0)$  (or  $\lambda < 0$ ).

It carries a terrible message:  $m_H \approx 180 \text{ GeV}$  could mean “the desert”!!!  
 This argument is a bit less rigorous than WW unitarity.

# Search for the Higgs boson at the LHC

# LHC challenges

Immense rates, PetaBytes data volume

Very large number of SM processes

Quantitative and accurate description is the key to control backgrounds and disentangle Higgs (and new physics)

Our friend pQCD can describe hard processes. However, W, Z, multijets and Higgs production require NLO and NNLO accuracy

MC programs for data analysis

As well, they should be as accurate as possible: need non-pert. modelling + as much pQCD as possible (MC@NLO)

Process	$\sigma(\text{nb})$	Rates (Hz) $L=10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
Inelastic	$10^8$	$10^9$
bb	$5 \times 10^5$	$5 \times 10^6$
$W \rightarrow l\nu$	15	100
$Z \rightarrow ll$	2	20
$t\bar{t}$	1	10
H (100 GeV)	0.05	0.1
H (500 GeV)	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$

## An experimenter's wishlist

Run II Monte Carlo Workshop

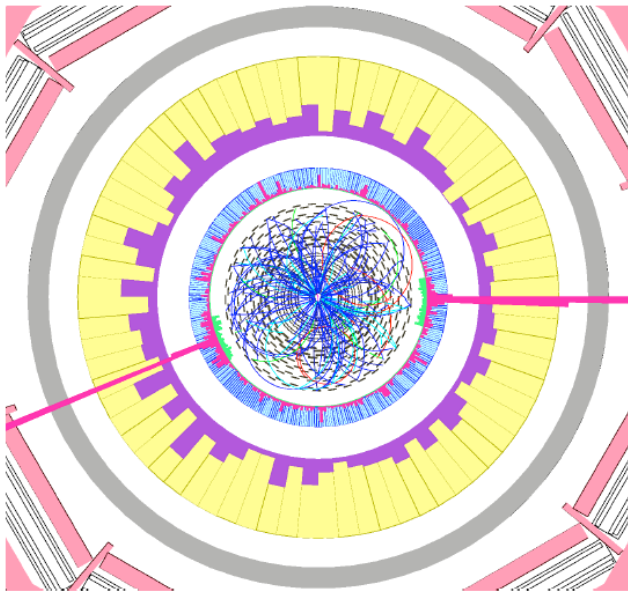
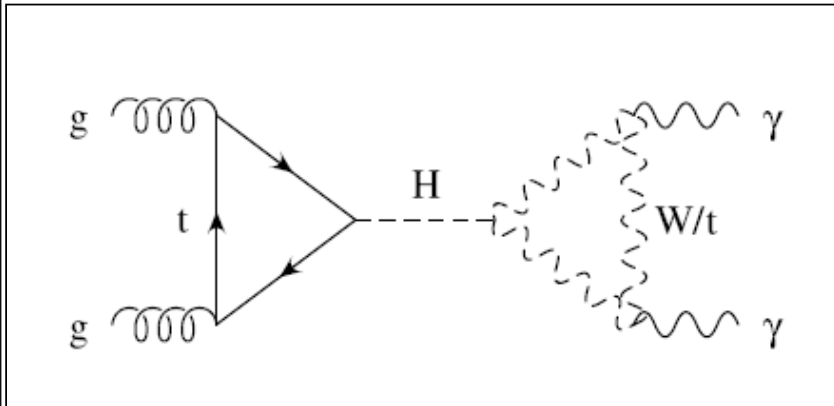
Single Boson	Diboson	Triboson	Heavy Flavour
$W+ \leq 5j$	$WW+ \leq 5j$	$WWW+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{t}+ \leq 3j$
$W + b\bar{b} \leq 3j$	$W + b\bar{b}+ \leq 3j$	$WWW + b\bar{b}+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{t} + \gamma+ \leq 2j$
$W + c\bar{c} \leq 3j$	$W + c\bar{c}+ \leq 3j$	$WWW + \gamma\gamma+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{t} + W+ \leq 2j$
$Z+ \leq 5j$	$ZZ+ \leq 5j$	$Z\gamma\gamma+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{t} + Z+ \leq 2j$
$Z + b\bar{b}+ \leq 3j$	$Z + b\bar{b}+ \leq 3j$	$ZZZ+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{t} + H+ \leq 2j$
$Z + c\bar{c}+ \leq 3j$	$ZZ + c\bar{c}+ \leq 3j$	$WZZ+ \leq 3j$	$t\bar{b} \leq 2j$
$\gamma+ \leq 5j$	$\gamma\gamma+ \leq 5j$	$ZZZ+ \leq 3j$	$b\bar{b}+ \leq 3j$
$\gamma + b\bar{b} \leq 3j$	$\gamma\gamma + b\bar{b} \leq 3j$		single top
$\gamma + c\bar{c} \leq 3j$	$\gamma\gamma + c\bar{c} \leq 3j$		
	$WZ+ \leq 5j$		
	$WZ + b\bar{b} \leq 3j$		
	$WZ + c\bar{c} \leq 3j$		
	$W\gamma+ \leq 3j$		
	$Z\gamma+ \leq 3j$		

# Higgs golden channels

	Tevatron	LHC
$m_H \approx 115 \text{ GeV}$	$WH \rightarrow l\bar{u}bb$	too large backgrounds
	$ZH \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}bb, llbb$	too large backgrounds
	cross section too small	$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
	cross section too small	$qqH \rightarrow qq\tau\tau$
	cross section too small	$t\bar{t}H \rightarrow l\bar{u}bbX$
$m_H \approx 165 \text{ GeV}$	$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\bar{l}\nu\nu$	$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow l\bar{l}\nu\nu$
	cross section too small	$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$ ← large $m_H$
	cross section too small	$qqH \rightarrow qqWW$
	cross section too small	$qqH \rightarrow qqWW \rightarrow qqll\nu\nu$

For  $m_H < 200 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\sigma_{\text{LHC}}/\sigma_{\text{Tevatron}} \approx 70$  ( $gg \rightarrow H$ ),  $\approx 60$  (VBF)  
 $\approx 100$  ( $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$ ),  $\approx 10$  ( $qq \rightarrow VH$ )

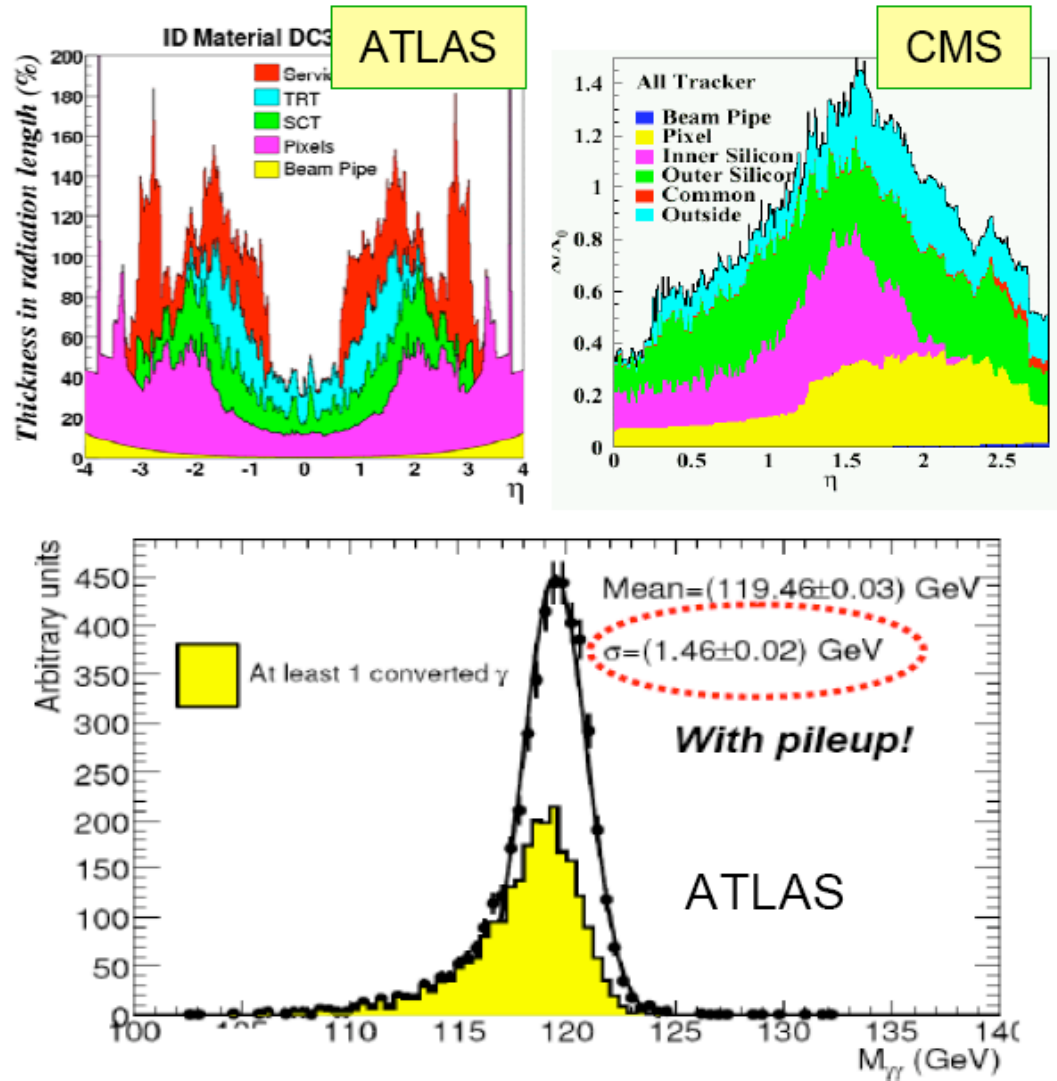
# Low Mass ( $M_H < 140$ GeV): $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



CMS Physics TDR, 2006

- Small branching ratio ( $\approx 0.2\%$ ), but two clean em clusters (for unconverted  $\gamma$ )
- Clear mass peak due to excellent em CAL energy resolutions (motivation for LAr and  $\text{PbWO}_4$  choice in ATLAS and CMS)
- Tools:
  - longitudinal and surface segmentation
  - isolation
- CMS:  $\sigma_E \approx 1$  GeV for  $m_H = 100$  GeV
- Expected  $s/b \approx 1/20$

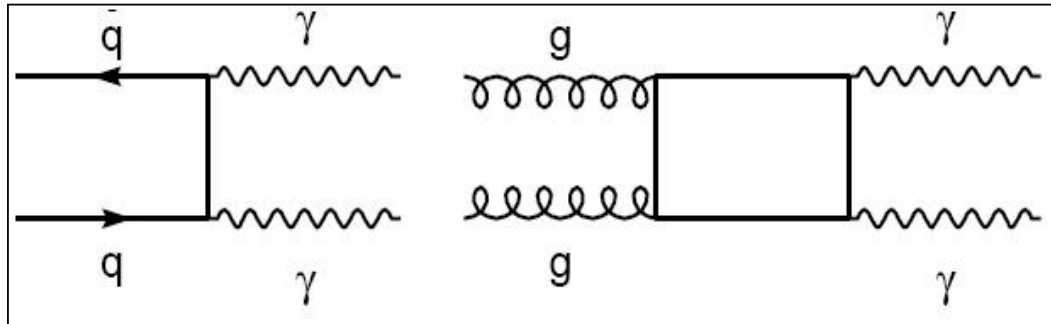
# $\gamma$ conversions



Although  $\approx 50\%$  of conversions in the material, the Higgs-mass resolution is still expected  $\approx 1$  GeV



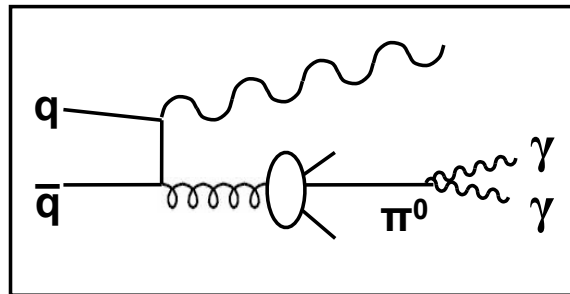
# $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ - Backgrounds



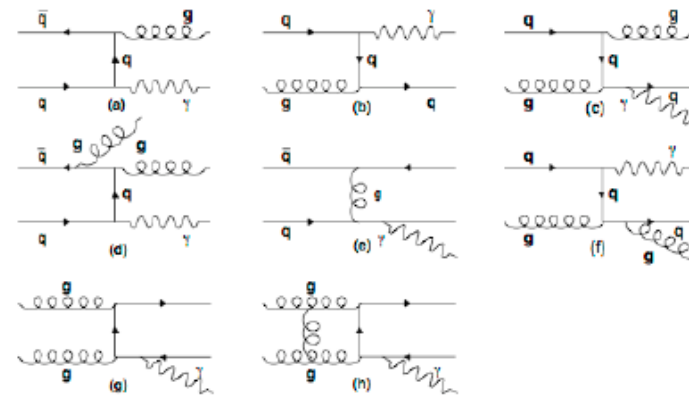
**Irreducible:**  
direct  $\gamma\gamma$  QCD production

**Reducible:**

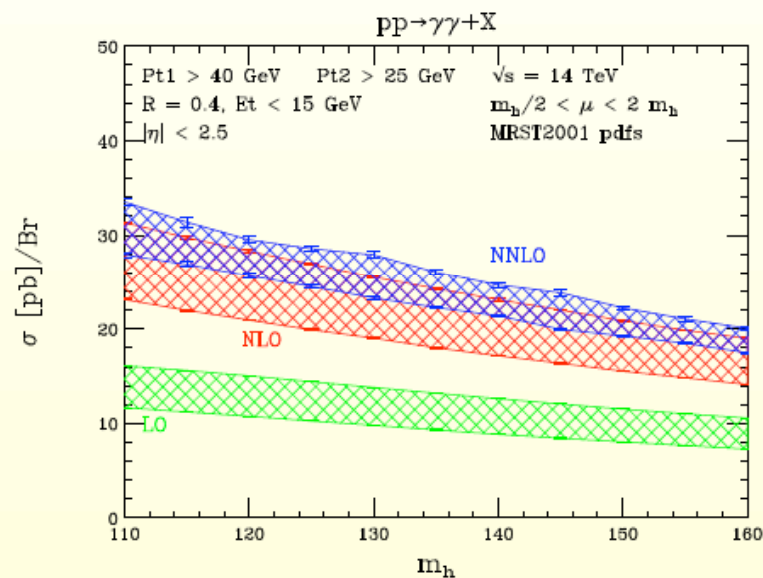
2 jets, 1 jet + direct  $\gamma$



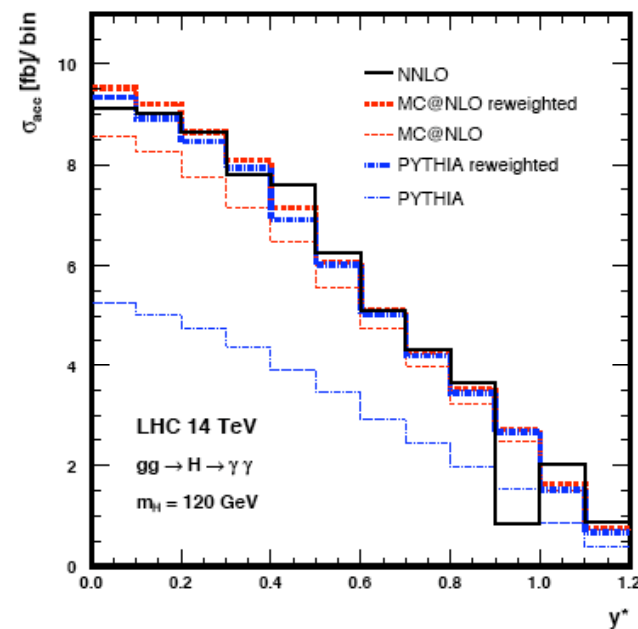
(e.g., by highly segmented em calorimeter),  
but many processes contribute  $\Rightarrow$  large background



## Precision results for $H\gamma\gamma$ signal



The cross-section at NNLO is two times of the LO result.

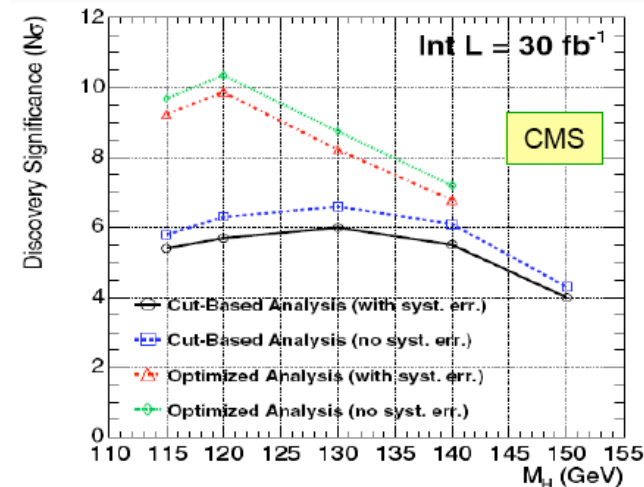
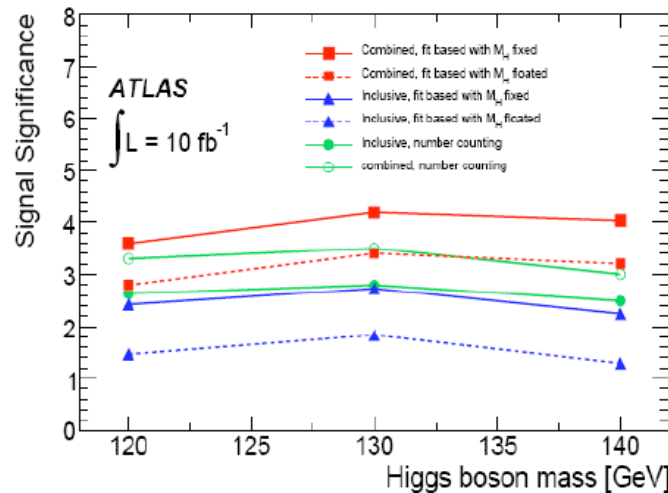
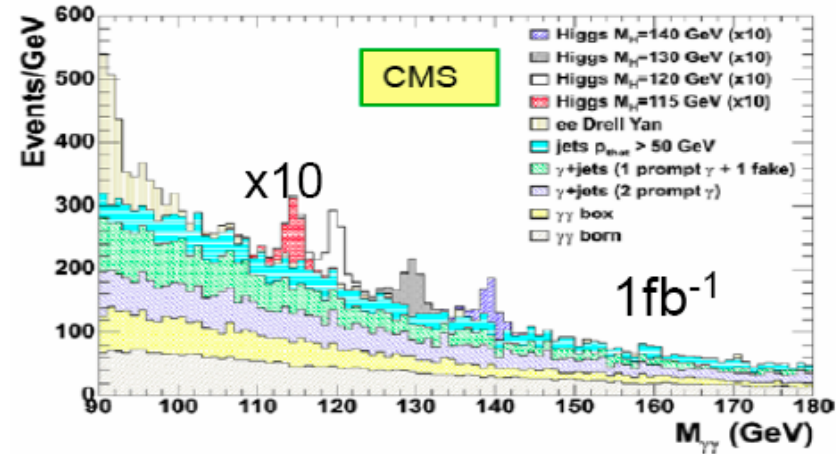
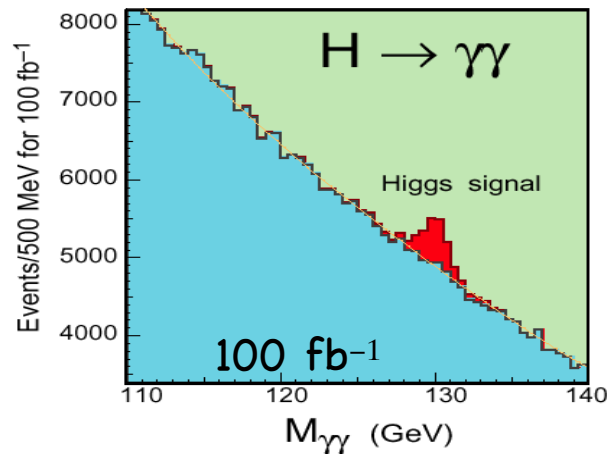


pseudo rapidity difference distributions for di-photon events

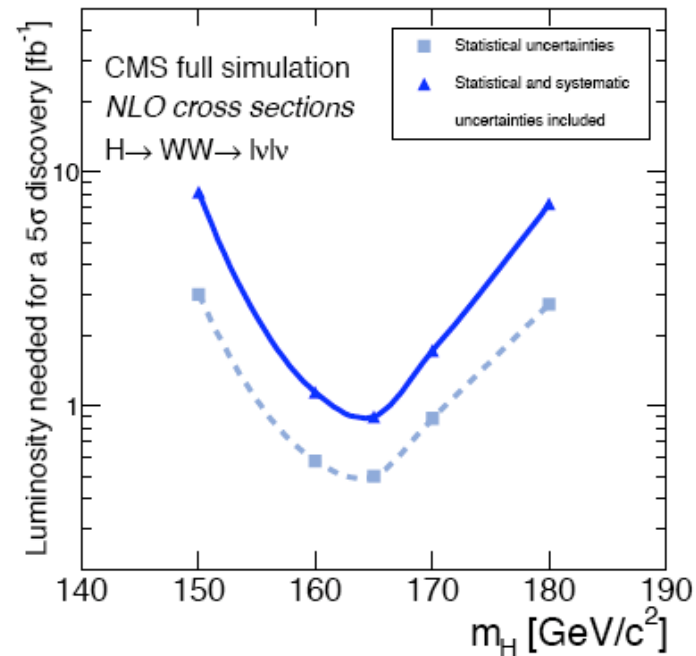
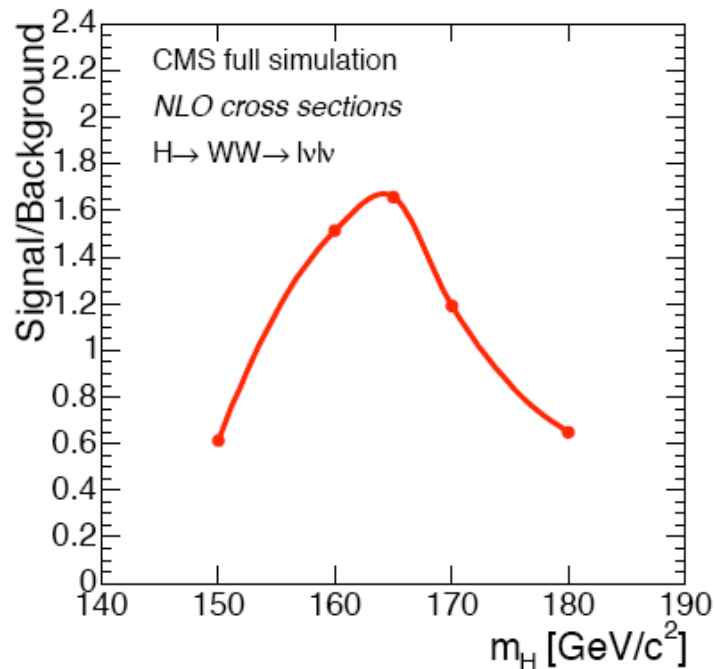
# $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ signals and significance

Isolation cuts:  $\Delta R = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\Phi^2} < 0.4, E_{T,\text{hadr}} < 15\text{GeV}$

Kinematical cuts:  $p_{\perp}^{(1)} \geq 25\text{GeV}, p_{\perp}^{(2)} \geq 40\text{GeV}, |\eta_{1,2}| \leq 2.5$



$$H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow l\bar{l}l\nu$$

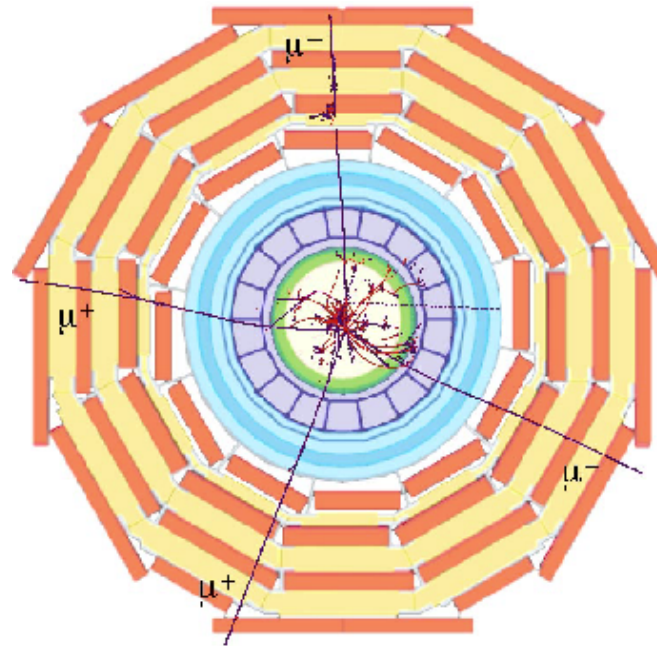


1  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  needed for  $5\sigma$  claim  
(Tevatron just excluded  $160 < m_H < 170 \text{ GeV}$  at 95% CL)

# The golden channel: $H \rightarrow 4l$

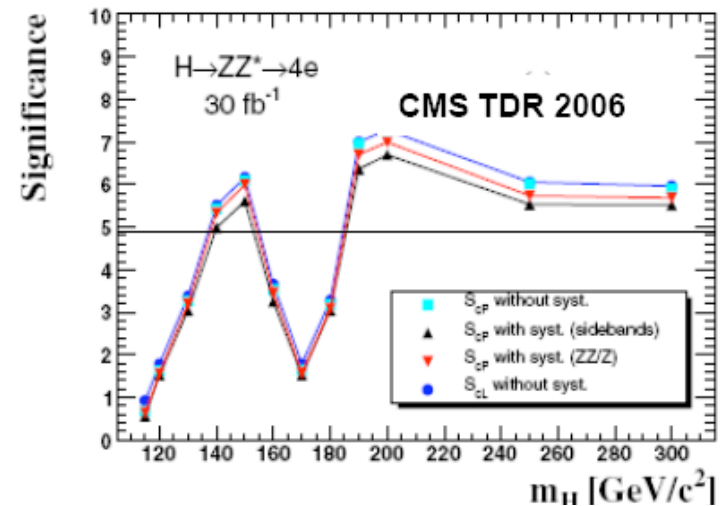
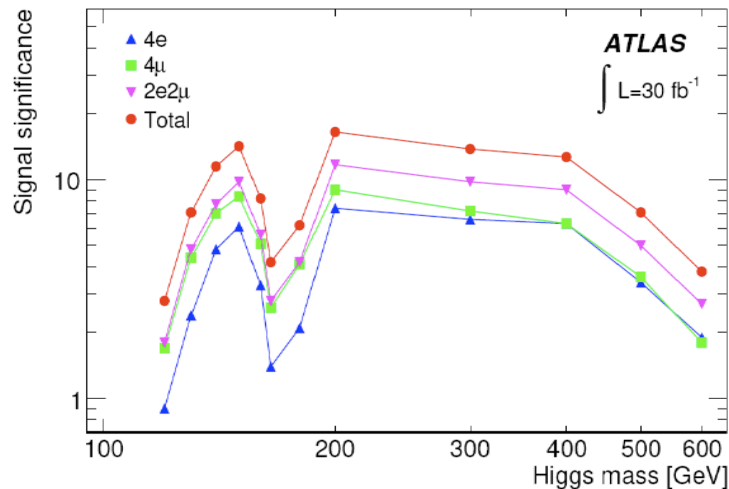
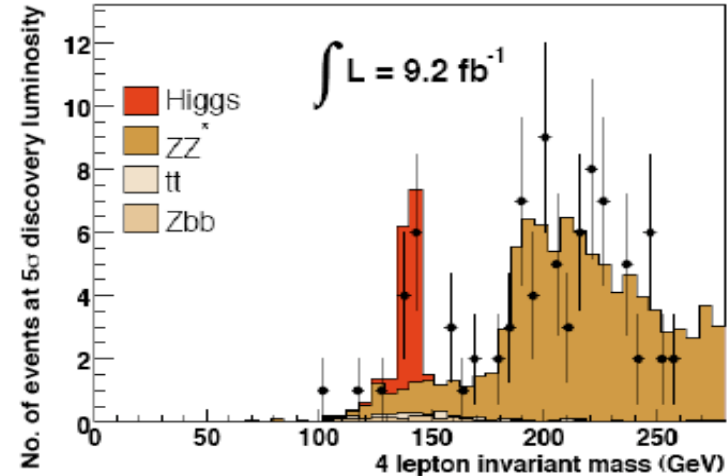
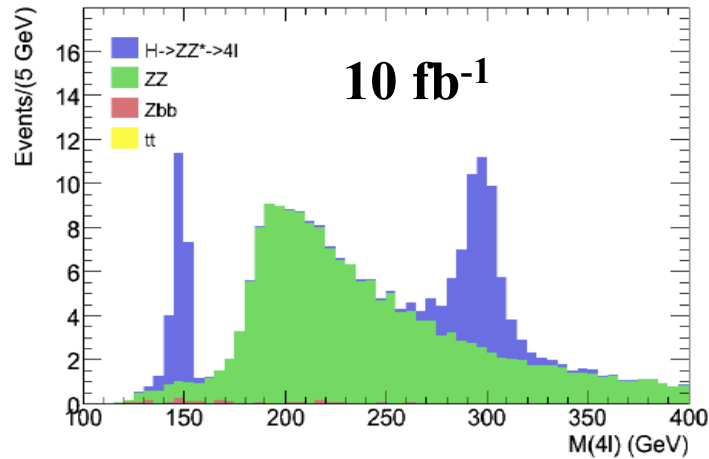
$$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow l^+ l^- l^+ l^- \quad (l = e, \mu)$$

Very little background (ZZ, Zbb, tt)



Expected mass resolution better than 1 GeV at 100 GeV

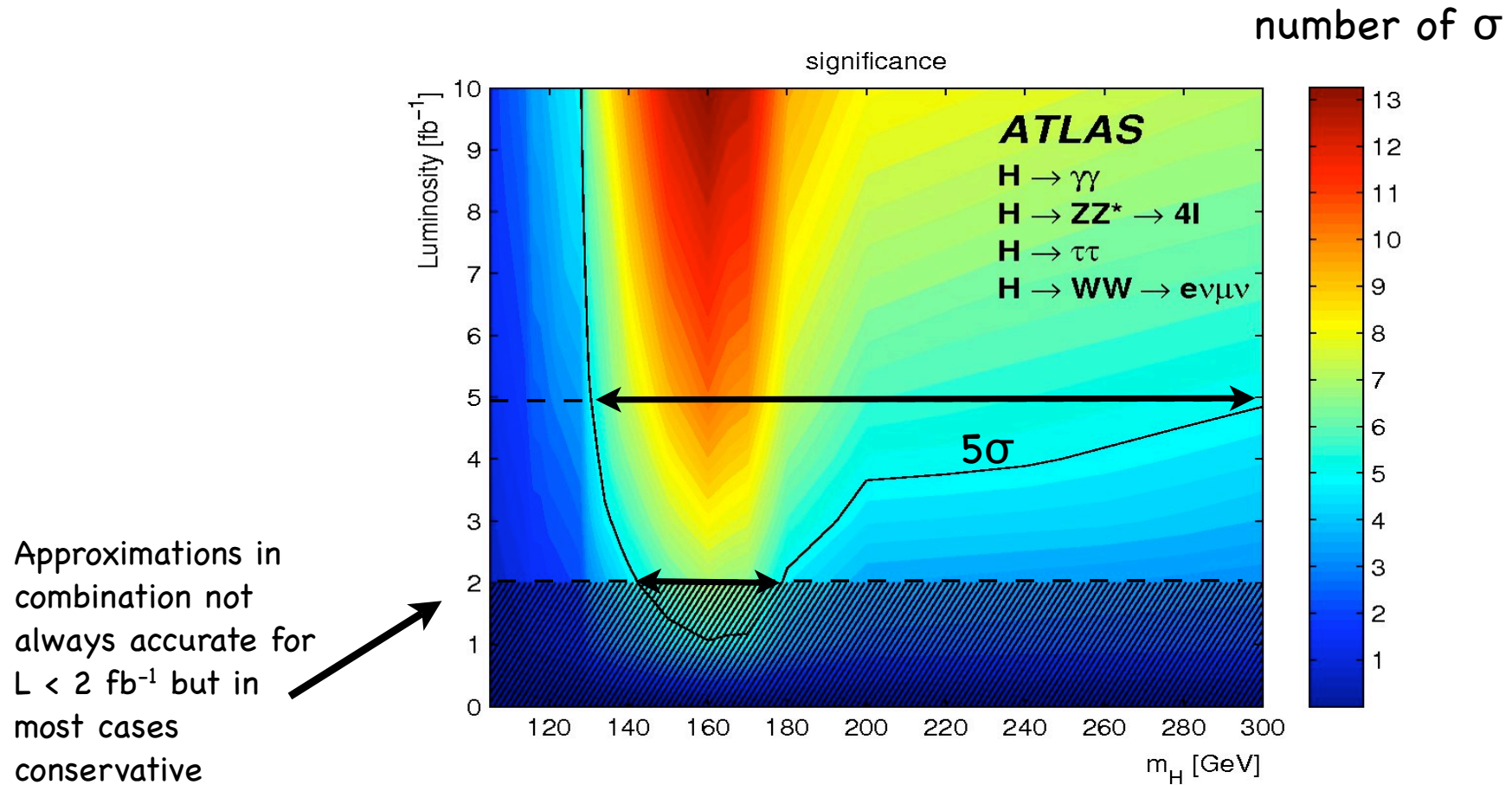
$$H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)} \rightarrow 4l$$



5σ discovery with 5 fb<sup>-1</sup>  
for  $m_H \approx 150 \text{ GeV}$  or  $200 \lesssim m_H \lesssim 400 \text{ GeV}$



# Combined signal significance:

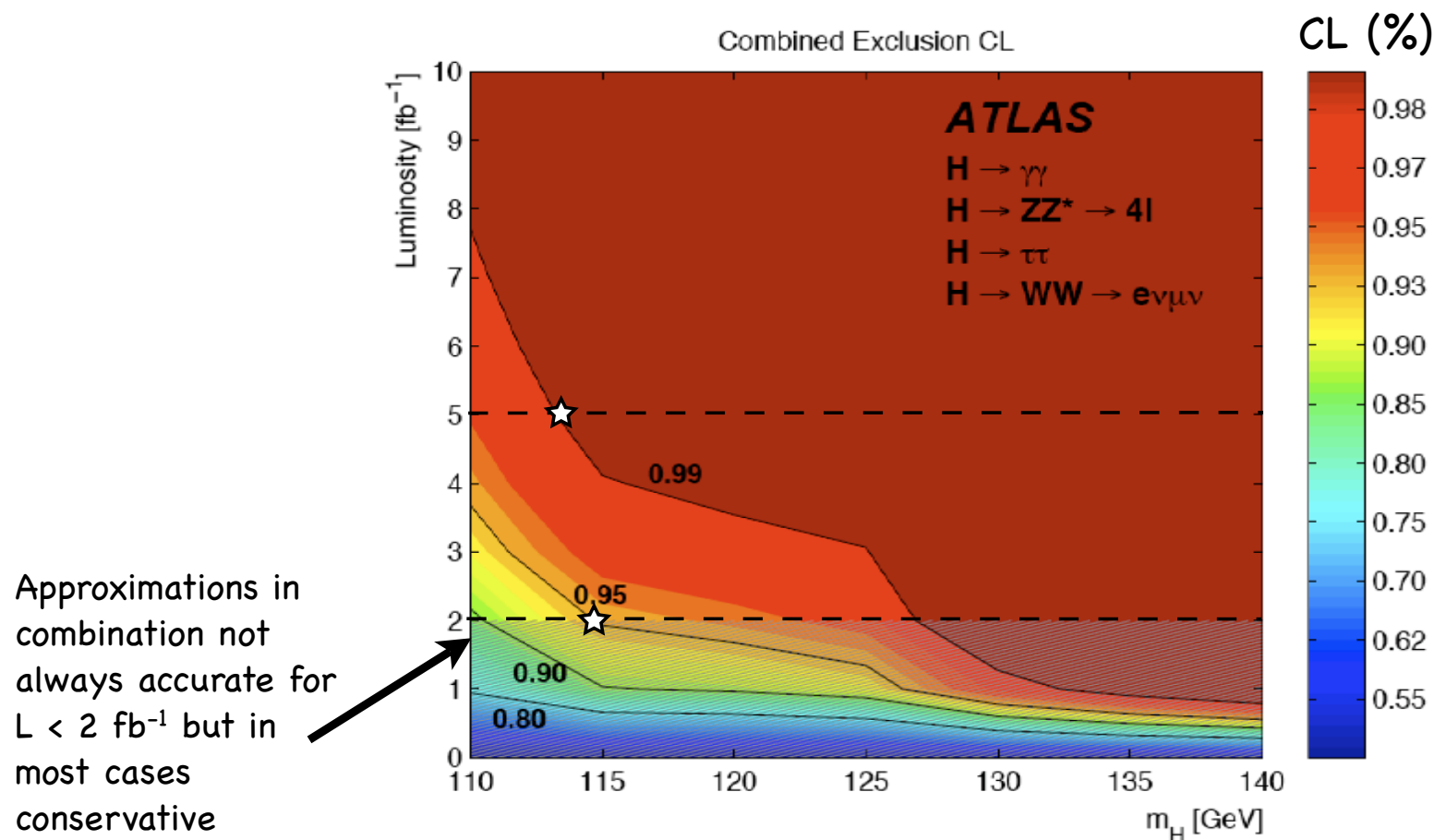


$5\sigma$  significance:

$2 \text{ fb}^{-1} \Rightarrow 144 \lesssim m_H \lesssim 180 \text{ GeV}$

$5 \text{ fb}^{-1} \Rightarrow 130 \lesssim m_H \lesssim 300 \text{ GeV}$

# Combined exclusion CL



2  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  exclude  $m_H \gtrsim 114 \text{ GeV}$  at 95% CL

5  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  exclude  $m_H \gtrsim 114 \text{ GeV}$  at 99% CL

# In summary

If the SM remains valid, a few  $\text{fb}^{-1}$   
(i.e. a few years) should be enough to dig  
the weak Higgs signals out of the huge  
LHC QCD background.